MALTA.

FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE

RELATING TO THE

POLITICAL CONDITION OF MALTA.

(*In continuation of* [*Cd.* 715] *July*, 1901.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
July, 1903.

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Serial No.	From or to whom.	—	Date.	Subject.	Page.
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MALTA.

FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE

RELATING TO THE

POLITICAL CONDITION OF MALTA.

No. 1.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN to GOVERNOR SIR F. W. GRENFELL.

SIR, Downing Street, January 30, 1902.

WITH reference to my telegram of the 29th inst.,* I have the honour to send you fifty corrected copies of the speech delivered by me in the House of Commons on the 28th. The report as published in the press was not entirely accurate, and I therefore transmit to you a reprint which has been prepared for publication.†

2. You will observe that I stated to the House that His Majesty's Government, for the reasons given, were prepared to withdraw at once without any condition the Proclamations of the 22nd March, 1899, and 7th October, 1901, whereby it was announced that at the expiration of 20 years from the 22nd March, 1899, English would be the official language of the Courts of Law in Malta.

3. I request, therefore, that you will take the necessary steps for the withdrawal of these Proclamations.

I have, &c.,
J. CHAMBERLAIN.

No. 2.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN to GOVERNOR SIR F. W. GRENFELL.

[*Answered by No.* 6.]

SIR, Downing Street, January 30, 1902.

WITH reference to my despatch of even date‡ herewith, I desire to explain the policy which after full consideration it appears to me should be adopted with regard to the conduct of the elected members.

2. Having regard to previous correspondence and consultations which have taken place, and to the communications which have passed between yourself and Lord Onslow, you are aware that the Proclamations which, in the despatch above referred to, I have instructed you formally to withdraw are not, in my opinion, essential to Imperial interests, and that their revocation may, according to the views of His Majesty's Government, be readily conceded.

* Not printed.

† COLONIAL OFFICE NOTE.—The corrected version of the speech will be found at pp. 1182 to 1206 of Vol. CI. of the Parliamentary Debates.

‡ No. 1.

3. I hope that this concession may prove satisfactory, if not to all parties in Malta at all events to the more moderate sections, and further, that it will remove any sense of irritation which may exist in Italy.

4. In the speech of which I have sent you copies in my despatch, I gave clear notice that should the elected members persist in their policy of refusing absolutely necessary votes of money it would be impossible to continue indefinitely the practice of passing Orders in Council, and that His Majesty's Government would be compelled to revise the constitution of Malta in such a manner as to secure control of the finances by the Imperial Government, and I propose to act upon this declaration of policy during the present year if the elected members do not loyally and reasonably accept the concession which has been made.

5. Subject to any observations which you may desire to offer I am of opinion that the course which should be pursued should be as follows :—

6. The contents of the speech above referred to should be immediately brought to the notice of the elected members, and of the educated classes in Malta, and you should at once re-introduce in the Council of Government the votes which have been rejected, and should invite the elected members, in consideration of the concession made in the matter of the Proclamations, to pass them together with any other votes which you may consider necessary. Should they decline, you should immediately bring forward the whole of the votes for the year, and allow them to be dealt with as the elected members think fit. The rejection of these votes will make it clear that an immediate revision of the constitution is absolutely necessary, and I shall at once proceed to consider what form that revision should take.

7. Should you desire to offer any observations upon the policy of His Majesty's Government as indicated in this despatch, I request that you will communicate with me by telegram or despatch at the earliest possible moment.

I have, &c.,
J. CHAMBERLAIN.

No. 3.

GOVERNOR SIR F. W. GRENFELL to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(Received February 4, 1902.)

SIR, The Palace, Valletta, January 31, 1902.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 30th December last,* I have the honour to report that a resolution for a vote on account, for the months of February and March, 1902, was proposed by the Chief Secretary in the Council of Government on the 29th January.

2. I enclose a copy of the resolution,* and a translation of the motion,* proposed by Dr. Mizzi, whereby he, with the support of his colleagues, reduced the vote for the Public Health Department by a sum of £11 13s. 4d., equivalent to the proportion, for two months, of the personal addition to the salary of Dr. G. Caruana Scicluna, previously sanctioned by you, and the votes for the Education Department by one-half, viz., the provision for March.

3. In justification of their action, with regard to the first reduction, the Elected Members (with the exception of two, who purposely abstained from voting) adduced the fact that the amount for December, 1901, had been paid to Dr. Caruana Scicluna, against their expressed wish, out of the sum placed at my disposal by the Order in Council, of the 26th September, 1901. It was explained to the Elected Members that their protest might be equally recorded by a nominal reduction ; that the proportion payable to the officer concerned was not included in the amount shown in the resolution, and that, by

* Not printed.

their action, the Elected Members placed the Government in the absolute necessity of having recourse to the provision of the Order in Council, without in any way offering Elected Members even a pretext for complaining.

4. With regard to the further reductions made, Dr. Mizzi and other Elected Members stated that they had decided to grant provision for the Education Department for the month of February—contrary to their previous declarations and action in refusing all funds in connection with the educational establishments—in view of the announcement in Reuter's telegram, received here on that day, in the following terms :—" In the debate on the substitution of English for Italian as official language at Malta, Chamberlain announced he was prepared to formally withdraw the proclamation, as he is most anxious to remove pain and irritation caused to Italy, as the friendship of England and Italy was a national asset to both countries."

5. It was further declared that the Elected Members did not intend to grant supplies for the Education Department, also for March, in view of the insufficient information conveyed by that telegram.

6. It was stated, on the part of the Government, that no official information of any sort had been received on the subject referred to in the telegram, and that, therefore, the Members of the Government could not enter into a discussion of the question raised by the Elected Members, on the information so far available, nor assist the Elected Members in their endeavour to connect such information with the vote submitted for their sanction.

7. The Chief Secretary was called upon to answer, without notice, several questions before the Vice-President was allowed to leave the Chair, and full details were asked for as to the meaning of the Government Notices,* of which copies are enclosed, and on the interpretation adopted by the Government of Clause 4 of the Order in Council of the 26th September, 1901.

No. 283, Nov. 19, 1901, and No. 10, Jan. 17, 1902.

8. The Chief Secretary replied that the Government adhered to the educational policy as previously stated by the Director of Education (absent on the 29th through illness), and that there was no intention on the part of the Government to depart from the principle of free choice, now adopted as the solution of the language question.

9. At the same sitting, a supplementary estimate* of expenditure was proposed, of which a copy is enclosed. Dr. Mizzi, besides other items of service which he proposed to disallow, as appears from the motion, of which I beg to forward a translation, moved the reduction of the whole sum required for effecting sanitary works of an urgent nature in several schools in Malta and Gozo. I regret to say that this proposal was, as usual, carried by the votes of all the Elected Members present.

With extract from "Daily Malta Chronicle," January 31, 1902.*

I have, &c.,
F. GRENFELL,
Governor.

Enclosure in No. 3.

(Translation.)

I propose the reduction, from the vote of £7,386, of the following items :—

1st.—£800 for the street between Valletta and the Maglio.

2nd.—The following items for the re-modelling of streets in Malta, viz. :—

1. Via San Giuseppe from No. 2 mile stone to the aqueduct tower, £267.
2. Portion of road, "Ta-Xbiex," from the coal stores to Manoel bridge, £638.
3. Roads at Bridge Wharf and Church Wharf, £1,200.
4. Strada Marina, Senglea, £590.
8. Strada Palazzo del Vescovo, Vittoriosa, £258.
13. Portion of Via Notabile, Attard, £362

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* Not printed.

15. Road, " Tal-Bajada," Curmi, £100.
16. Via Casal Zebbug, Rabato, £215.
18. Strada Croce, Melleha, £100.
19. Strada Antico Molino, Melleha, £50.
20. Strada Mezzodi, Melleha, £25.
21. Strada Nuovo Molino, Melleha, £100.

3rd.—£787 for sanitary works in the schools in Malta and Gozo shown in the estimate.

And that, therefore, the aforesaid vote be reduced to £1,894.

AVV. FORTUNATO MIZZI.

Passed, by division,
WM. CASOLANI,
Clerk to the Council.

January 29, 1902.

No. 4.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN to GOVERNOR SIR F. W. GRENFELL.

[*Answered by No.* 7.]

Sir, Downing Street, February 8, 1902.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 9th of December last,* and to inform you that I am prepared to authorise you to charge the sum of £149 13s. 6d. for " Other Charges," Elementary Schools Department, 1901, to the sum of £9,000 provided by Clause I. of the " Malta Revenue and General Purposes Order in Council, 1901," but that, if it be possible, I should prefer that this and all other votes rejected previously to my speech in the House of Commons, on the 27th January, should be re-introduced, and the elected members given the opportunity of reconsidering their action.

I have, &c.,
J. CHAMBERLAIN.

No. 5.

GOVERNOR SIR F. W. GRENFELL to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(Received 12.18 a.m., February 17, 1902.)

TELEGRAM.

[*Answered by No.* 8.]

Elected Members of Council allege Government to be an autocracy in disguise, in view of my minute† presented to the Council on the 12th and forwarded to you and they have all resigned. Resignation may be taken as refusal to pass rejected Estimates, although it is probably prompted by submission to evasion of personal responsibility of wrecking Constitution. Estimates rejected by Elected Members of Council, Annual Estimates and Appropriation Ordinances, will be passed next Wednesday with an official quorum, unless you telegraph otherwise.

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* Not printed.

† See Enclosure 2 in No. 6.

No. 6.

GOVERNOR SIR F. W. GRENFELL to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(Received February 18, 1902.)

(Extract.)

The Palace, Valletta. February 11, 1902.

WITH reference to your despatch of the 30th January,* and to my telegram of the 7th instant,† I have the honour to express my full concurrence with your views as to the policy to be adopted by this Government in regard to the conduct of the Elected Members of the Council of Government.

I am abstaining from causing minor estimates already rejected by Elected Members to be again laid before the Council; but all important votes recently rejected will be resubmitted in a Supplementary Estimate,† of which I beg to enclose a copy.

I am anxious to give Elected Members every chance to act wisely and save their Constitution; and I beg to forward, herewith, a copy of a Minute signed by me, which I directed the Chief Secretary to read and lay on the Table of the Council at the sitting to be held next Wednesday, 12th February.

The withdrawal of the Proclamation has had an excellent effect, and the respectable and responsible leaders of the late agitation have either come to me or sent respectful messages of thanks for the settlement of this question.

The fact of the solution having been arrived at in a manner which prevents the decision being ascribed to local agitation has been most useful, and will tend to prevent any further attempts on the part of the more respectable class of the Maltese to similar attempts at pressure in the future.

Enclosure 1 in No. 6.

[Supplementary Estimate.—Not printed.]

Enclosure 2 in No. 6.

MINUTE.

CHIEF SECRETARY,

I DESIRE the following Minute to be read at the next sitting of the Council of Government and laid upon the Table thereof:

Instructions have been received by me from His Majesty's Government to withdraw parts of the Proclamations of the 22nd of March, 1899, and of the 7th of October, 1901, which had fixed the 22nd of March, 1919, as the date when the English language would be substituted for the Italian as the official language of the Courts of Law in these Islands: and by Proclamation No. III. of the 8th of February, 1902, those Proclamations have been withdrawn in so far as they referred to the announcement that English would be the official language of the Courts of Law on the 22nd of March, 1919.

In accordance with those instructions, I desire to impress on the Members of the Council of Government and on the People of Malta the following points in Mr. Chamberlain's speech in the House of Commons of the 28th January, 1902. Firstly as regards education: "And I say this—it is the first statement I make with regard to the future—at all hazards and against all opposition we are determined to preserve this freedom of choice." Secondly as regards necessary votes of money: "I do not for one moment deny their‡ right to criticise the proposals of the Government, and to oppose them in the last resort; but to refuse absolutely necessary Votes of money for purposes from which their own constituents would derive the very greatest benefit in

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* No. 2. † Not printed. ‡ *i.e.*, of the Elected Members.

order to defeat the decision of the Government in regard to some other question is really not in accordance with a Parliamentary Constitution, and I earnestly trust that that course of action will be abandoned. It is not to be contemplated that the state of things which we all regret and which exists at the present time should continue. The Elected Members themselves will be ready to admit that. They cannot expect the Government responsible for this great Imperial fortress to allow this childish game to proceed, and it would be clearly the duty of any Government under these circumstances to preserve the great Imperial interests in their keeping either by going back to the Constitution before 1887 or by such a modification of that Constitution as may be necessary to give the Government a controlling voice in the administration."

Elected Members must realize from these quotations, that if after the concession contained in the Proclamation of the 8th instant, the policy of refusing Votes of money necessary to carry on the administration is still pursued (thus making good government impossible), His Majesty's Government will be compelled to modify the Constitution in the sense explained by Mr. Chamberlain.

His Majesty's Government has therefore directed that all important votes recently rejected by Elected Members should be re-submitted, together with the General Estimates for the next financial year.

In conclusion, I desire to impress on the Elected Members that the Constitution is a precious Trust which belongs not to themselves only, but also to all the inhabitants of Malta ; and that they are bound to reflect before taking action which would have lasting effects upon their successors and the inhabitants of these Islands.

F. GRENFELL,
Governor.

February 12, 1902.

Enclosure 3 in No. 6.

Translation from the "Gazzetta di Malta" of January 31, 1902.

On Wednesday last, in the morning, a Reuter telegram caused a great emotion among the population of these Islands.

The telegram announced that in a discussion in the British Parliament on the official language of Malta Mr. Chamberlain had declared his readiness to revoke the relative proclamations, he was very anxious to eliminate any cause of pain and irritation to Italy, the friendship of Italy and England being of common advantage to both these nations.

The emotion caused in Malta by this telegram is greatly due to its unexpectedness, if we may say so, as the Maltese, knowing well the man with whom they had to deal, expected a repetition of the usual curt and insolent refusals, for which the present Secretary of State for the Colonies has become proverbial among them. However, there were some people who, giving a favourable interpretation to that telegram, had begun to rejoice, considering it as the announcement of a victory, and to congratulate the leaders of the present popular agitation.

The latter, however, and many other far-sighted persons, who could smell a rat behind it all, exerted themselves in quieting down that hasty emotion, by saying that if the telegram contained all that was intended to concede to the Maltese, for the sake of Italy, far from rejoicing the Maltese were given reasons for greater irritation, as after all, Mr. Chamberlain was only trying to deceive Italy with honeyed words, without giving the Maltese anything of what they were asking.

To-day the Italian papers have furnished us with more details, and we are sorry to say that in the light of these details we are unable to conclude that our first and gloomy forebodings are unfounded.

Here is all the gist of Mr. Chamberlain's speech: Since some years I have, against the wishes and in spite of the resistance of the Maltese people, substituted the English to the Italian language, as the official language of public offices in Malta, the Education Department included, but with the exception of the Court of Justice; quite recently I have ordered, by means of a Proclamation, that this substitution is to be also effected in the Courts of Justice 20 years after 1899; well, now, to make a thing agreeable to Italy, I shall revoke this Proclamation, but I shall leave all the rest as it is, as I know that by so doing I have nothing to lose and everything to gain. With or without the Proclamation, the substitution of the language in the Courts will come about automatically, as a necessity, as long as it is imposed by the present scheme of instruction, in examinations for Government employment, for University degrees, and for other offices, and possibly it will come about before the lapse of 20 years; in the meantime I shall have obtained the gratitude of the Italians, and I shall have reconquered the lost friendship of Italy, making her believe that a great sacrifice is being made for this friendship by the revocation of a Proclamation which, as a matter of fact, will cost us nothing. This is the gist of the Colonial Secretary's speech; for those who understand things rightly, as given by the Italian papers, and it is a thing to wonder at, how it could have been received in Italy with complacency, not to say delight. It is true that the words addressed by Mr. Chamberlain to Italy were very flattering, and being uttered by a Minister of so powerful a nation as England, cannot but produce a good impression on the national feelings of the Italians. But we must believe that the Italian Ministers, and the Italian people, are not satisfied with mere words, and that they expect words to be accompanied with substantial facts. Meanwhile, Mr. Chamberlain has given to Italy much smoke and no fire.

The agitation of the Maltese is not due to the Proclamation—this has only been the last straw which caused the fall of the overladen donkey. The agitation of the Maltese is due to the fact that the Government, with long intrigues of 25 years, has succeeded in almost completely banishing the Italian language and in substituting it by the English language, and that Proclamation announced only the day on which the Government would have crowned its work. It is against this ostracism of the Italian language that the Maltese fight, and not against the announcement of the day on which such ostracism will be completely realized.

We are inclined to believe that the irritation in Italy has the same cause as the Maltese agitation.

Now, if this cause is not removed, the agitation in Malta will continue, and then how can the irritation in Italy cease?

In our opinion Mr. Chamberlain has to-day added another cause to the Italian irritation, by his attempt to deceive Italy, making the Italians believe that he is giving them a substantial concession in the withdrawal of the Proclamation, whilst in point of fact, he only makes to them an illusory and unreal concession. The withdrawal of the Proclamation will not safeguard the Italian language in Malta, but might, on the contrary, accelerate its destruction. So long as the Proclamation exists, the Italian language cannot be banished from our Courts before the lapse of twenty years from 1899—if the Proclamation is revoked the English Government will be free to banish the Italian language from our Courts, after a year or two, or five, when it considers it convenient to itself.

The Maltese understand all this, and are not at all disposed to accept the *generosity* of Mr. Chamberlain, but will continue the agitation until justice is done to them.

We hope that the Italians will understand the situation as much as the Maltese, and that they will not be deceived by a Chamberlain, who maliciously endeavours to reunite Italy to England with fine words only, reserving all the substance to himself.

The Maltese cannot but feel deeply grateful for the valid support which they have so far had from Italy, and this is also evinced from Mr. Chamberlain's speech itself—and they do not in the least doubt that they may rely on the same support, even in future, when it will be understood in Italy that the agitation in Malta has not at all been eliminated by the concessions announced by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, which are only dust thrown in one's eyes, and smoke without fire.

We shall speak again on this subject.

Translation from the "Gazzetta di Malta" of February 1, 1902.

The Concessions of Mr. Chamberlain.

The First Impression.

The day before yesterday, at about 10.30 a.m., Reuter announced that "Mr. Chamberlain in the Debate on the substitution of the English for the Italian language as the official language of Malta, announced that he was prepared to formally withdraw the Proclamation, as he was most anxious to remove any cause of pain and of irritation caused to Italy because the friendship of England and Italy was a national asset to both countries."

The news spread, in the twinkling of an eye, from mouth to mouth over all the Island, and the first impression created on the minds of many was so favourable that they were already planning demonstrations, and some of the students who had collected opposite Urzi's coffee house cheered Dr. Mizzi for the victory he had obtained. Dr. Mizzi, however, who more than any other understands the deceitful arts of the English Government, having reflected on the telegram which had been received, said to the crowd that the time had not yet arrived to cry victory, because as the telegram was couched, it did not give a guarantee of a complete victory, as it only referred to the Proclamation, and the Proclamation concerned solely the language of the Courts. And what kind of victory will it be, he said, if the English language is not imposed in the Courts, but continued to be imposed in the Education Departments and in all the other Government Departments!

The Doubt.

The words of Dr. Mizzi acted like a damper. The enthusiasm roused by the first impression was changed into suspicion. The doubt that Mr. Chamberlain wanted to play a trick went on increasing, and in a few hours any further expression of complacency was suspended and more explicit information on the subject was awaited.

The Insult.

In the meantime the insult by Mr. Chamberlain who had declared that he was making the said concession out of respect for Italy, was gradually resented. The protests of the Bishop, of the Parish Priests, of the Clergy, of the Nobility, and of the whole population had therefore been in vain to induce Mr. Chamberlain to renounce the proposed suppression of the Italian language. We owed the concession to the necessity of having Italy as a friend. The ex-nailmaker of Birmingham had found himself compelled to swallow what he had eructed, and gave vent to insult.

And there had been some people who were preparing demonstrations to the English Government! Demonstrations! Nothing of the kind! Even if the concessions had been more substantial we would not have felt bound in any to the Government. The concessions had been made not out of deference to us, but in the interest of the Government who wanted to conciliate Italy.

The True Cause.

Although Chamberlain had declared that he withdrew the Proclamation out of respect for Italy, we, and all those who had followed the present popular movement, know that he wanted to kill two birds with one stone. He had not drawn back from his purpose only out of respect for Italy, but the strong and important agitation over all the Island had had something to do with it. The popular protests, the declarations by the Parish Priests, which were drawn up in a very strong, patriotic, and significant language, the Petition by the Bishop, as pithy as it was concise, had compelled him to find a way of conciliation, and to attempt to entrap us. But he did not want to acknowledge this to the Maltese, to those Maltese who had received him in dignified silence when he visited Malta, to those Maltese who had objected to his name appearing on a new road as the Government wanted to do.

Cutting a Bad Figure.

Meanwhile, Mr. Chamberlain, who did not like to give satisfaction to the Maltese by declaring that he had withdrawn the Proclamation on account of their protests, had to cut a bad figure before all the world; in fact, only a few days ago he had declared, after his unpleasant incident with Germany, that he was only responsible for

his doings to his King and to his country, and in referring to the isolation of England had declared that he was proud of that *splendid isolation*. And now, a few days after, he declares that he is ready to withdraw the Proclamation issued by him out of respect for Italy! This is anything but a *splendid isolation*.

The expected elucidations, the true and real intentions of Mr. Chamberlain were finally made known to us yesterday. As the leaders of the present movement had perceived the concessions referred to in the telegram were nothing but a deception and a snare laid to entrap Italy and that section of the population of Malta which satisfies itself with little. Mr. Chamberlain does not declare that he withdraws the substitution of English for Italian—no—he expresses his readiness to withdraw the Proclamation imposing the English language in the Courts of Law. So that the system of instruction will continue to be based on the English language—employments will be given only to those who study English in preference to Italian, and English will be the dominant language in the public departments. He thereby hopes that what he cannot do to-day, that is, to introduce English into the Courts of Law, he will be at liberty to do a few years hence, when our youths will have been educated and brought up on the English system, and he tells us this in plain language, without any subterfuges in his speech. He repeats the argument that 80 per cent. of the parents have chosen English, and he goes on to say, "I am ready to withdraw the Proclamation and let the future decide; if the future will show that the majority of the people understand English and not Italian, it will be absurd to have the proceedings in Court conducted in a language which the people do not understand."

This is plain enough.

When fifteen or twenty years hence, all the young men will have studied English and neglected Italian under compulsion, Mr. Chamberlain, or somebody else in his place, hopes to return again to the charge with greater probability of success.

In view of the above, it would be absurd to accept with pleasure the concessions. They are the first step that will lead us to victory; we will continue the struggle, we will inform Italy, who is now our protectress, as Mr. Jos. Chamberlain has assured us, is the true state of affairs, and the final victory will be ours, more especially so in view of the fact that Mr. Chamberlain, in building his castles in the air as regards the future, has not taken into consideration the different circumstances in which England might find herself.

A simple rapprochement between France and Italy has compelled him to bow to the latter on the morrow of his priding himself on England's *splendid isolation*, and to withdraw a Proclamation which he had a thousand times declared to be intangible. What will he not do if a Franco-Italian alliance, or another event of equal importance, were to happen?

The Taxes.

And about the taxes Mr. Chamberlain is absolutely silent, as if the present movement were only against the substitution of the language. To us the taxes are also a subject of the greatest importance—all the protests referred to the language and to the taxes. So that, even if he had complied with our first request, it would always have been our duty to continue the struggle in order to gain the second point. And we will continue the struggle, for ever hopeful in the help of Italy, our neighbour, and in the intrinsic merits of our agitation.

A Phrase that has Escaped us.

Yes, in the intrinsic merits of our agitation; let us understand this well. Our agitation is of the greatest importance. Shut up in this, the principal fortress of England in the Mediterranean, we are more powerful than it is believed. By agitation we might regain all the liberties which we have lost, because it does not suit England to have (as Mr Chamberlain has let out in his speech on Malta) an open agitation against the Government, and much less, therefore, a secret agitation.

Let us, therefore, continue the agitation, and we will win, especially if some favourable circumstance—like the rapprochment of France to Italy—should present itself.

And it is not difficult that similar circumstances may turn up and perhaps also in the near future.

Ursus.

No. 7.

GOVERNOR SIR F. W. GRENFELL to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(Received February 18, 1902.)

SIR, The Palace, Valetta, February 13, 1902.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt, this day, of your despatch of the 8th instant,* and to acquaint you, in reply, that at the sitting of the Council of Government held yesterday I caused a Supplementary Estimate † of expenditure to be laid on the Table of the Council, together with the General Estimates for the year 1902-3.

2. Notice was given that the Government would take the rejected votes on the next Government day, together with the General Estimates.

3. In order to avoid irritation, I directed that some of the most unimportant, but contentious, of the rejected votes should be omitted from the Estimate above mentioned; and it is, therefore, I fear, too late to follow the course recommended in the latter part of your despatch under reply.

4. Dr. Mizzi was not present at the meeting owing to ill health.

5. Mr. Azzopardi, who assumed the leadership of the Elected Members, made a speech commenting on my Minute§. He stated most uncompromisingly that the withdrawal of the Constitution had no terrors for the Elected Members; that Malta was governed despotically under the guise of a sham constitution; that all Europe should be made to understand this; and that the Elected Members did not want the Constitution, unless the control of the system of education was to be freely in their hands, and because financial control had been taken from them already by the increase to £10,000 of the annual sum at the disposal of the Governor, without the consent of the Council.

6. These views appeared to be concurred in by the Elected majority, as no dissent was expressed: the issue will be brought to a test on Wednesday, the 26th instant.

I have, &c.,

F. GRENFELL,

Governor.

No. 8.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN to GOVERNOR SIR F. W. GRENFELL.

(Sent 6.20 p.m., February 18, 1902.)

TELEGRAM.

Your telegram of the 17th February.‖ No matter which has not already been submitted to the Council and dealt with by the Elected Members should be brought forward, but I agree to your passing with an official quorum the estimates rejected by the Elected Members in the past, and any legislation necessary to cover warrants of advance already issued.

I am anxious, as regards past matters, to wipe the slate clean, and to leave the newly-elected members to deal with the estimates for the coming year, and other necessary legislation, as if there had been no friction in the past.

As it is necessary in the interests of public business that the vacancies existing in the Council of Government should be filled, the writs for the fresh elections should, of course, be issued and be returnable with the least possible delay.

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* No. 4. † Not printed. § Enclosure 2 in No. 6. ‖ No. 5.

No. 9.

GOVERNOR SIR F. W. GRENFELL to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(Received February 24, 1902.)

SIR, The Palace, Valletta, February 20, 1902.

I HAVE the honour to forward, for your information, a translation of a letter from the Elected Members of the Council of Government whereby they resigned their seats in the Council of Government.

2. A partial election to fill up the vacant seats will be held without delay.

I have, &c.,
F. GRENFELL,
Governor.

Enclosure in No. 9.

(Translation.)

SIR, Valletta, February 15, 1902.

THE Minute by Your Excellency which was read and laid on the Table of the Council by the Chief Secretary at the last Sitting, by Your Excellency's direction, is the last ill-advised act of violence of a disguised autocracy, and leaves no other alternative to the undersigned, the legitimate representatives of the Maltese people, but to resign their office as Elected Members.

The undersigned have, therefore, the honour to present to Your Excellency their resignation as Elected Members of the Council of Government.

ALFONSO M. MICALLEF.
AVV. BEN BONNICI.
P. SAMMUT.
Dr. AND. PULLICINO.
MSE. EMM. TESTAFERRATA BONICI.
F. AZZOPARDI.
AVV. FRANCESCO CARDONA.
CESARE DARMANIN.
P. BARTOLI.
F. WETTINGER.
E. SEMINI, P.L.
S. CACHIA ZAMMIT.
AVV. FORTUNATO MIZZI.

To His Excellency
Sir F. W. Grenfell, G.C.B., G.C.M.G.,
Governor of Malta and its Dependencies,
&c., &c., &c.

No. 10.

GOVERNOR SIR F. W. GRENFELL to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(Received February 24, 1902.)

SIR, The Palace, Valletta, February 20, 1902.

WITH reference to my despatch of this date,* reporting the resignation of the Elected Members of the Council of Government, I have the honour to forward, for your information, a translation of an "Appeal," signed by Dr. Mizzi, which appeared in the "Gazzetta di Malta," of the 18th instant.

I have, &c.,
F. GRENFELL,
Governor.

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* No. 9.

Enclosure in No. 10.

TRANSLATION from the "Gazzetta di Malta" of the 18th February, 1902.

Maltese and Gozitans !

As was announced in this newspaper on Saturday all my colleagues and myself have had to resign our Seats as Members of the Council of Government. You will all have understood what prompted us to take this step, because you have, for some time past, closely watched the policy of the Government in pretending to maintain the Constitution to serve the ends of the Government, and to the great detriment of the unhappy population of these Islands. We all have been aware for some time that the Government wants to play the rôle of a liberal Government in the eyes of Europe, and wishes to make believe that the Maltese are freemen in their Island-home ; that they are their own masters, and masters of their belongings, and with that object in view the Government found itself compelled, in 1849, to grant a Constitution so that acts of the most arbitrary nature might appear to the world as the consequence of the "advice and consent of the Council of Government," notwithstanding the fact that such acts were generally the work of an official majority compelled to vote according to the views of the Governor, frequently crushing the elective minority.

The agitation of 1880-86 having frustrated the Constitutional farce, which hitherto had deceived Europe, the Government has had to improve the Constitution, and to grant as it did in 1887 more substantial powers to the people ; but the Government continued to reign supreme by means of a policy which succeeded in persuading a small elected minority to vote with the official members of the Government thus forming a majority which was adverse to the people, and which was always looked upon with disapproval and reprehension by the people.

In 1898 the people having opened their eyes and begun to perceive what their interests really were, and having perceived the necessity of using great circumspection in selecting all their representatives, decided to return to the Council persons who would not easily swallow the bait held out by the Government. But what has been the result ? The Government being unable to reckon any longer on the pliability of the representatives of the people for the purpose of eluding the popular rights, cast off the mask, and began to impose its own will by the most unconstitutional means, namely, by vetoing all useful proposals emanating from the Elected Members, and by sanctioning by Orders of His Majesty in Council all those measures that in the interests of the population had been rejected by the Elected Members.

And the policy of the Government continuing to be impudently aggressive, the Chief Secretary to Government was made to say that the Elective Members have not a decisive vote in the Council, but only an advisory one, which the Governor could follow or not, and even the Secretary of State, Mr. Chamberlain, found no difficulty in formulating his constitutional idea for Malta, in a mass of verbiage of which the gist is as follows : let the Maltese have a constitution, subject to the condition that they will use that constitution in accordance with the wishes of the Government.

This is why Mr. Chamberlain has threatened the Maltese to go back to the constitution which existed before that of 1887, and to modify the constitution of 1887 in such a way as to give power to the Government to do as it pleases, and this was to be done if the Elected Members should, in order to thwart the intention of the Government, refuse to sanction votes of money proposed by the Government.

Maltese and Gozitans !

You are well aware that the Elected Members had with well grounded reasons declined to pass the Education votes before justice was done to them in the language question, and had rejected votes, involving heavy and useless expenditure, with the view of obviating the necessity for further taxation, and of bringing about the repeal of the taxation already imposed, but as soon as they learned from the telegram of the 29th January that the Government was showing an inclination to make some sort of concession, they passed some of the Education votes, and even suspended the discussion of the Ordinance proposed in Council dealing with the reform of the system of instruction, and this they did to give the Government time to develop its intentions, and to meet the Government where a fair compromise could be arrived at.

It was not, however, without a sense of mortification, that the Elected Members followed this course because it might have been suspected that they had been intimidated by the grave rebukes levelled at them by Mr. Chamberlain, but, as the Elected Members were acting in the public interest, they could not afford to attach much importance to the personal mortification unjustly inflicted upon them, and if the Government had shown any inclination to come to a fair compromise, they would have continued to pass the votes covering the period necessary to arrive at an understanding. It appears, however, that Count Strickland perceived what was the real intention of the Elected Members, and in order to frustrate it, he did not hesitate to induce the Governor to repeat Mr. Chamberlain's threats and to call upon the Elected Members not only to pass future votes, but to pass also votes already refused by them on former occasions.

Maltese and Gozitans !

Mark the cunning of these tactics. The Government knows very well that we refused those votes for very good reasons, because we are not expected to expend money in order that our children may be educated in a manner of which we do not approve, and the Government, therefore, knows very well that if we voted the amounts already rejected, we would be acting against the dictates of our conscience and of our dignity ; but, hoping that we would be intimidated by the menance that the constitution would be withdrawn, the Government imagined that we would stultify ourselves by passing the votes we had previously disallowed. The Government, therefore, was only laying a snare for us to walk into, and to save the rights of the Maltese and our own dignity, no other way was open to us but to return to you the mandate with which you had honoured us.

Maltese and Gozitans !

In resigning our posts we have fulfilled a duty towards you ; we have left you at liberty to declare whether you are still willing to preserve this constitution, now rendered ridiculous and ephemerous, but it will be our duty to request your suffrages in order to continue the struggle on your behalf, should our action have met with your approval. In resigning, it has not been our object to shirk the work which the country requires of us, but, on the contrary, our intention has been to strengthen our position by your approval, to be able to impose the will of the people with greater authority upon the Government. Nevertheless, from this very moment we have to tell you that there is nothing in our programme that we wish to alter, and that, if you will return us, we will continue to fight for the same principles for which we have contended in the past. We shall not be frightened by the insults of Governors and Secretaries of State, which have been re-echoed in most of the English Newspapers, nor shall we in any way be frightened by the threatened repeal of a constitution which is only intended to serve as a screen for the despotism of the Government. But, with the rights of a free people ever in view, a people who are their own masters and masters of their native land, and who have their own dignity at heart, we shall fight until justice be done to us. And we place our trust in God that we shall at length obtain justice.

AVV. FORTUNATO MIZZI.

Valletta, 18th February, 1902.

No. 11.

GOVERNOR SIR F. W. GRENFELL to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(Received February 28, 1902.)

[*Answered by No.* 18.]

SIR, The Palace, Valletta, February 22, 1902.

I HAVE the honour to report, for your information, that at the sitting of the Council of Government held on the 12th instant, a Supplementary Estimate of Expenditure,* of which a copy is enclosed, containing some of the important and necessary votes recently rejected by the Elected Members, was, by my direction, presented to the Council, with an intimation that the votes required for the services therein set forth would be re-submitted for sanction at the earliest opportunity.

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* Not reprinted.

2. On the same day I addressed to the Chief Secretary to Government the enclosed Minute, in which, after referring to the concession made by His Majesty's Government, whereby the Proclamations fixing the period for the substitution of English for Italian in the Courts of Law in these Islands had been withdrawn, I invited the attention of the Elected Members to the views of His Majesty's Government with regard to the system of Education at present in force here, and to the policy to be pursued locally in carrying on the regular administration of the Government of these Islands, as announced in the speech delivered by you in the House of Commons on the 28th ultimo. That Minute was read by the Chief Secretary, and laid on the Table of the Council, in accordance with my instructions, on Wednesday, the 12th instant.

3. At the close of the sitting held on that day Mr. Semini and, on the following days, other Elected Members, gave notice in writing of motions and questions which they desired to discuss on the 19th February; but late in the afternoon of Saturday, the 15th instant, the Elected Members sent in their resignation of the seats they occupied in the Council, alleging that their action was due to my minute of the 12th February. A translation of the communication addressed to me by the Elected Members was forwarded in my despatch of the 20th instant.*

4. I thought it my duty to direct that the consideration of the Estimate already mentioned should be proceeded with, in the interest of the good Government of Malta, and that Estimate was duly passed on the 19th February; and, in the meantime I desired the Chief Secretary to announce on the same day in the Council the proposed action of the Government with regard to certain other Estimates (the consideration of which admitted of no delay), and with regard to the Ordinances of Appropriation required to legalize expenditure passed by the Council.

5. I beg to enclose a copy of the speech, delivered in Council by the Chief Secretary, in compliance with my directions, on the 19th instant, as well as a copy of two Supplementary Estimates† passed that day, and of another Estimate passed at the sitting held yesterday, together with the Ordinances of Appropriation,* duly passed, covering the whole of the expenditure voted by the Council, which had not yet been legalized by Ordinance.

6. With regard to the Estimates last mentioned, one includes the excesses incurred on votes authorised by the Council for 1901, and other necessary expenditure for which no provision could be made during the recess of the Council last year. This Estimate is invariably voted by the Elected Members after slight or no opposition, and it had to be passed in order to include the expenditure involved—which was duly accounted for last year—in the Supplementary Ordinance of Appropriation for 1901. These excesses have been incurred by my order.

7. The Draft Tenth Supplementary Estimate contains such balances remaining on votes granted last year as were required for continuing this year the services therein specified. Such expenditure has also been in the past sanctioned by the Council with few, if any, remarks on the part of the Elected Members; and it had, moreover, to be legalized (together with other expenditure voted since January last) by the Ordinance of Appropriation for the first three months (January to March) of 1902.

8. With regard to the Draft Eleventh Supplementary Estimate, the same may be said to be a continuation of the Estimate mentioned in the first paragraph of this despatch, as it contains three important votes which had been either wholly rejected or partly reduced by the Elected Members.

9. You will perceive that no new matter was submitted for the sanction of the Council in the absence of, and in deference to, the Elected Members; and that, although the General Estimates for the year 1902–3 should now be under the consideration of the Council with a view to their being passed by the end of March next, I have abstained from dealing with them now, but propose to wait for the Election of the Unofficial Members of the Council, for which purpose the usual Writs were issued on the 20th instant.

10. The Council has now been adjourned to the 21st of March next, and if on that

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* No. 9. † Not reprinted.

day the Unofficial Members of the Council of Government will not have been duly elected, a further adjournment will take place.

11. Legislative sanction has thus been obtained for all important votes recently rejected, and for all expenditure incurred or to be incurred by the Governor's authority up to the 1st April, 1902. The newly elected members will, therefore, be able on their return to approach the transaction of public business without reference to the past.

I have, &c.,
F. GRENFELL,
Governor.

Enclosure 1 in No. 11.

Draft Seventh Supplementary Estimate of Expenditure.

[*Not reprinted.*]

Enclosure 2 in No. 11.

MINUTE.

[*See Enclosure 2 in No. 6.*]

Enclosure 3 in No. 11.

SPEECH delivered by the Chief Secretary in Council.

The CHIEF SECRETARY,

SIR, it is with regret, which is also shared by persons outside this Council, that it is necessary to go on with urgent business in the absence of the elected members, who have so suddenly resigned their seats. His Excellency the Governor has every reason to believe that there are many influential gentlemen in Malta who are animated with the desire to see political complications avoided in future and public business proceeded with by all concerned in a conciliatory and patriotic spirit. This has always been the desire of the Government, and I am confident that that is also the view of the majority of the people of Malta. Although the resignation of the elected members is deplored, the present financial position of the Government makes it possible—it is hoped, without hurting the feeling, or impairing the future action of the elected members—to use this opportunity for eliminating past controversy. With this object in view, the Government will not proceed, in the absence of the elected members, either with the General Estimates or with any new matter. I trust, however, that the necessity of carrying on the Government, notwithstanding any passing difficulty, will be generally recognised ; and that, as there is no provision for Education for the months of January and March, and it is necessary to obtain legislative sanction for indispensable expenditure which has not yet been legalized, the action of the Government in carrying on the administration on the usual basis, and in legalizing votes already proposed, will be understood and appreciated. The bye-elections will take place without delay, and when the Council again meets with its full complement, it is hoped that all causes which require reference to the past may be eliminated, and that the Council, as a whole may so work together as to ensure the prosperity of the island and the happiness of the people. Sir, I beg now to move that you do now leave the Chair to consider in Committee of Supply the draft seventh estimate and the estimates of excesses and of re-votes already approved in principle for which legislative sanction is necessary.

No. 12.

GOVERNOR SIR F. W. GRENFELL to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(Received March 3, 1902.)

[*Answered by No. 18.*]

SIR, The Palace, Valletta, February 25, 1902.

I HAVE the honour to forward, for your information, copies of the official report* of the Debates which took place in the Council of Government at the sittings held on the 29th of January and 12th of February, 1902.

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* Not reprinted.

2. I beg to draw your attention to the speech delivered by Sir Gerald Strickland, in placing before the Council, the General Estimates for 1902–3, on the present financial position of the country.

3. The Chief Secretary to Government had, at the same sitting, laid on the Table of the Council a Minute, signed by myself, relative to the withdrawal of the Proclamations of the 22nd of March, 1899, and the 7th of October, 1901, and subsequently, Mr. Azzopardi offered some remarks on the Financial Statement, and took the opportunity to state the views of the Elected Members with respect to that part of your speech of the 28th of January in which a warning was given to the Elected Members that His Majesty's Government would be compelled to modify the Constitution if the policy of rejecting votes of money, necessary to carry on the Administration, were pursued.

4. I beg to enclose the translation of extracts from Mr. Azzopardi's speech.

5. The translation of an extract from a speech delivered by Dr. Mizzi on the 4th of December (in which the present Constitution is referred to in very disparaging terms) is also enclosed.

I have, &c.,
F. GRENFELL,
Governor.

Enclosures 1 and 2 in No 12.

Reports of Debates of the Council of Government of Malta.

(*Not reprinted.*)

Enclosure 3 in No. 12.

TRANSLATION of Extracts from a speech delivered by Mr. F. Azzopardi, in the Council of Government, on the 12th February, 1902.

* * * * * * *

"I certainly thank His Excellency for the interest he has taken in calling our attention to certain phrases of Mr. Chamberlain's speech. There was certainly no need of calling our attention to that speech, because it had already been considered by us. I am only surprised, however, that His Excellency should have thought proper to make reference to those expressions of the Secretary of State which sound like a menace to this population, and that he should have abstained from referring to other statements made in that speech which clash with those adverted to in the Minute of His Excellency. From the first statement we learn that His Excellency the Secretary of State has decided to maintain, at all hazards, the so-called choice of the language in our schools. This decision is in absolute contradiction with the right which the Secretary of State admits, and has again admitted recently, the Elected Members of the Council have of criticizing and opposing the Government measures. If the Council is not to have a voice in the matter of public instruction, I fail to see what other right will remain. In financial matters, the Council has now been deprived of all authority. Setting aside the ordinary expenses of the administration, this Council can have no voice in other financial matters; the Council may criticise or even reject votes, but the rejection would serve no purpose. The bulk of the ordinary expenditure has either been placed on the Civil List, or has been left completely at the mercy of His Excellency the Governor, so that the specific power which the Constitution of 1887 gave to this Council to decide financial matters is annulled. As regards the choice which the Secretary of State wants to maintain in the schools, at every cost, and despite all opposition, we know that no such choice is really given, and that, owing to a combination of circumstances brought about by the Government, the pupils can only elect for the language which the Government desires them to choose. * * * * * * * *

* * * * * * *

The other observation of the Secretary of State is that this Council is adopting a child's play in rejecting votes, not on their own merits, but on account of other questions which have no connection with the votes themselves. As far as I know this is not correct. The Council has only refused to pass votes in connection with education

and has always done so with the view of compelling the Government to give effect to the wishes of the people. All the other votes that were rejected by this Council were so rejected on their own special merits which had nothing to do with the question of education. In the course of his speech, the Secretary of State has displayed little knowledge—not to call it utter ignorance—of our affairs in mixing up the rejection of the Taxation Ordinance with other votes proposed in this Council. This Council rejected the Taxation Ordinance because the Council was, on principle, averse to the imposition of taxation. The Council discussed that Ordinance, gave its reasons for opposing it, and rejected it.

* * * * * * *

Under present circumstances, the Secretary of State cannot expect the Council to vote the education estimates, in the face of the obstinacy of the Government in wishing to maintain the present system, despite the opinion of the whole population. I remember that, on the first occasion when the question of education came before the Council, after I had been returned for the Third District, I declared that I would oppose any educational vote, and it was the Honourable and Noble Chief Secretary himself who expressed approval of my conduct, and called it quite regular and constitutional. And it is a matter of surprise to me that the Secretary of State should now complain of the unconstitutional action of the Elected Members, who are following a course of action which is looked upon with approval by the Honourable and Noble gentleman."

The CHIEF SECRETARY.—Sir, I rise for a personal explanation. My recollection of the honourable member's reference to my speech is not the same as his. I then stated that his line of action was more logical and more consistent than that of his co-leaders, though it appeared to me undesirable.

Mr. F. AZZOPARDI.—"I was saying that according to another observation of the Secretary of State, to which His Excellency has been pleased to draw our attention, we are threatened, indirectly, with further mutilations of the Constitution, nay, even with its abolition! We have repeatedly declared that, if the Constitution is to serve the purposes to which it has been put for several years, the Government may freely withdraw it, as it is of no use to us. If this Constitution is to be there merely for the Elected Members to say "Amen" to all the Government may want, then the best thing would be not to give citizens the trouble of coming here at all, and to allow the six infallible Members of the Executive Council to do just as they please. Therefore, nobody need tremble much at this threat of Mr. Chamberlain.

* * * * * * *

As regards the appendix to the General Estimates, to which the Honourable gentleman has called our attention, I should like to know what interpretation is given by the Government to that Clause of the Order which leaves at their discretion the large sum of £9,000 a year, in addition to the previous £1,000. Are these £9,000 intended to cover excesses over the estimates of the works which are to be carried out from revenue derived from taxation, or are they to remain at the disposal of the Government to further paralyze the powers of this Council in financial matters, viz., all the sums rejected by the Council, to be expended all the same by the simple means of a Warrant signed by His Excellency the Governor? If that is the case, the sooner the Secretary of State abolishes the Constitution the better will it be for us and for the whole people of Malta, because we shall, at least, be spared this continual piece of humbug which is termed a Constitution. Everybody will know that Malta is ruled in the Russian method. As a matter of fact, Malta is to-day actually governed after the Russian fashion, under a cloak of Constitutionalism, which is illusory."

Enclosure 4 in No. 12.

(Translation.)

(Extract from a speech delivered in the Council of Government by Dr. Mizzi, on the 4th December, 1901.)

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"And is it for this that we are threatened with the loss of the Constitution? Is this the great crime that is to serve the Government as a pretext to justify the suspension of the Constitution in the face of Europe? Is this the concocted justification which is to

be placed before Europe for depriving this people, who deserve a Constitution, of this ragged piece of paper which is called a Constitution? I think that if, in order to suspend the Constitution, the Government clutches at such a trifle as this, that Government will be doubly ridiculous. But all this is said to deceive Europe; because in our eyes it would be ridiculous to threaten us with the withdrawal of that which we do not possess.

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No. 13.

GOVERNOR SIR F. W. GRENFELL to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(Received March 5, 1902.)

SIR, The Palace, Valletta, March 1, 1902.

I HAVE the honour to forward, herewith, for your information, a copy of a representation addressed to me by Dr. F. Sceberras, as President of the "National Committee," and of the reply which was sent thereto with my authority.

I have, &c.,
F. GRENFELL,
Governor.

Enclosure 1 in No. 13.

To His Excellency General Sir FRANCIS W. GRENFELL, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George, Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Island of Malta and its Dependencies, &c., &c., &c.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

THE Members of the National Committee, His Majesty's loyal and devoted subjects, beg most respectfully to submit to Your Excellency and through Your Excellency to His Majesty's Government, that they, and with them all classes of the people of Malta, are most anxious to remove, and, if possible, to eradicate the friction which has unhappily existed since some time between the Maltese people and His Majesty's Government, and which has been remarkably increased by the issue of His Majesty's Order in Council of the 26th September, 1901, and are prepared to do their utmost in order that the good relations which have existed during more than one hundred years between the population of Malta and the British Crown may be cherished and enhanced to the end of time.

2. His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies has on more than one occasion, and notably on the 28th January last, declared that the Maltese have been a most loyal and law-abiding people; that they are proud of the fact that they were incorporated in the British Empire at their own request, and not by conquest; that they are proud of having fought with the English for the rescue of their country from French rule; and that they have ever since shown on every critical occasion a great affection and regard for the connection; and that lately, when all the Empire was moved at the receipt of the news of the relief of Ladysmith, that satisfactory event was nowhere received with greater enthusiasm or with greater expression of relief than it was by the inhabitants of this small but most interesting and most loyal Island.

3. And Mr. Chamberlain, as an Imperialist, expressed on the same memorable occasion a desire that those feelings of affection and loyalty should be cherished and not discouraged, and declared that "if there is any discontent, even although it is based entirely upon a misunderstanding, still such discontent is to be deprecated, and it ought to be removed if by any action on the part of His Majesty's Government they can remove it, and the grievance, even though it be only an imaginary grievance, ought to be treated by His Majesty's Government in a conciliatory spirit."

4. As a proof of the conciliatory spirit with which His Majesty's Government was prepared to deal with the feelings and opinions of this loyal population, Mr. Chamberlain offered to withdraw, and did actually withdraw, without any condition, the Proclamation by which His Majesty's Government had declared their intention to suppress the use of the Italian language in the Courts of Law in the year 1919; and at the same time expressed a hope that "no drastic measures may be necessary, and that the Elected Members and all concerned will meet him in the same spirit in which he had endeavoured to meet them."

5. The Members of the National Committee now deeply regret to have to point out that Your Excellency's Minute of the 12th instant was not drawn up in the conciliatory spirit which animated His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies. That Minute having so irritated the Representatives of the People that they thought themselves justified in resigning their seats *en masse*, the aforesaid Members of the National Committee respectfully venture to ask whether Your Excellency is disposed to recommend to His Majesty's Government to meet the people of Malta in such a conciliatory way as may prevent in the future the occurrence of any serious misunderstanding likely to disturb the good relations which have existed between the people of Malta and the British Crown for more than one hundred years.

Dr. F. SCEBERRAS,
President of the National Committee.

Dr. CRISTOFORO FRENDO,
Secretary.

19th February, 1902.

Enclosure 2 in No. 13.

SIR, Chief Secretary's Office, Malta, February 19, 1902.

I AM directed by His Excellency the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this date, which has received His Excellency's careful consideration.

2. His Excellency has also desired me to state that the reproposal of the rejected votes in the Council of Government was ordered by His Excellency in accordance with the explicit instructions of the Secretary of State.

3. His Excellency wishes me to express a hope that, after the pending bye-elections, Elected Members of the Council will be disposed to afford the Government their assistance to enable the administration of the Government of these Islands to be carried on, by all concerned, in that conciliatory spirit which you so much desire; and I have much pleasure in assuring you that every effort will be made, on the part of the Members of the Government, to approach the consideration of public questions in the same spirit.

4. His Excellency feels confident that the course which will be followed by the Government this afternoon with regard to the estimates, will facilitate the dropping of former controversies and open the way to a clear understanding on the completion of the pending bye-elections.

I have, &c.,
G. STRICKLAND,
Chief Secretary to Government.

F. Sceberras, Esq., M.D.,
&c., &c., &c.

No. 14.

GOVERNOR SIR F. W. GRENFELL to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(Received March 8, 1902.)

SIR, The Palace, Valletta, March 4, 1902.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, herewith, the translation of an Electoral Address which was published in the "Gazzetta di Malta," of the 3rd instant, as signed by all

the late Elected Members, together with a translation of the leading article in the said newspaper, bearing on that Address.

I have, &c.,
F. GRENFELL,
Governor.

Enclosure 1 in No. 14.

(Translation.)

To the Electors of Malta and Gozo.

ELECTORS,

IN fulfilment of the promise we gave you when we resigned our seats in the Council, we shall once more come forward at the forthcoming elections, prepared to again set to work on behalf of the country—if you will continue to honour us with your confidence and approve of our programme, and prepared to retire into public life if you would rather elect other men in our stead.

You are well aware what brought about our resignation; the pretension of the Government is, that the Maltese people are to enjoy a Constitution on the condition that their representatives must, on each and every occasion, give effect to the wishes of the Government, and the reason of this is that the Government desires to appear before the world as a Constitutional Government, whilst, in reality, it is a Government that will not put up with opposition of any kind. That is why the Government endeavours to force us into adopting the English language, and to compel us to approve of many public works that are meant to drain the treasury, and to render the creation of taxes indispensably necessary; and the Government has threatened to deprive us of the Constitution if we do not comply with these pretensions. This threat is also addressed to you, Electors, because it is made in reference to a programme which you have repeatedly endorsed; consequently, in order not to imperil the honour and the dignity of the country we represent, namely, your honour as much as our own, we felt that the only reply we could give to this grave affront was to resign our seats *en masse*. We were also bound to do this for another reason, namely, to let you have a free hand to adopt, in the face of this threat, the policy you think best, and to give you an opportunity to express your views and to come to a decision on the subject.

ELECTORS,

YOU know what our programme is, and you know that we are determined to stand by that programme to the very end. We have no modification whatever to make in it. As to taxation, we shall continue to prevent the waste of public money, and to urge upon His Majesty and upon the Government that the taxes, which were lately imposed, by which the financial position of the citizens has been so shamefully aggravated, and by which so much harm has been done to commerce, and injury to the few local industries which exist, should be withdrawn. With regard to the language question, the official element talk of conciliation. We do not quite understand what this proposed policy of conciliation really is, because nothing has been made public in a concrete form in regard to the intentions of the Government; and, consequently, we can only reply in generic language to the indistinct promises of the Government, and declare that we are by no means averse to a true and equitable conciliation. When, in 1888, a compromise was arrived at on the language question, the representatives of the people had acted in a most conciliatory manner, but no sooner had the compromise been arrived at, than the Government proceeded to carry it out in its own way, and virtually took back what had been previously conceded. Meanwhile, if the Government wishes to perpetrate another joke, we shall not be a party to any child's play, but if the Government does in reality mean to be just and equitable, we shall be found to be honest citizens, who do not want to fight for the fun of fighting, but who desires to secure peace and good Government without detriment either to the interests of the country or to those of the Government.

We observe with regret, however, that the Government shows but little regard for the population; and being wholly absorbed in one sole idea, namely, the interests of the

Fortress and of the Naval Station, the Government seems to forget that 180,000 Maltese Christians also have the right to live and prosper in this island—an island that has been conceded to them by God, and on which their interests are not less sacred and legitimate than any British interest, and that the people cannot, with justice, be deprived of the administration of local affairs which they have a right to control by means of their legitimate representatives.

We shall, therefore, endeavour to induce the Government to understand that, far from curtailing the powers which, it has been acknowledged, the Island should have, the Government should, in this case, pursue a new policy and try to conciliate the interests of the fortress with those of the population.

ELECTORS,

BRIEFLY, these are our views on current questions, and we place them before you, without prepared and high sounding phrases, with that ingenuousness and good faith which have so far animated our conduct inside and outside the Council. We are prepared to serve you, if you will elect us, and you may rest assured that we shall equally respect your decision if you prefer to entrust other men with the care of your interests.

ALFONSO M. MICALLEF.
AVV. B. BONNICI.
P. SAMMUT.
Dr. AND. PULLICINO.
MSE. E. TESTAFERRATA BONICI.
F. AZZOPARDI, L.P.
Dr. FRANCESCO CARDONA.
CESARE DARMANIN.
NOT. P. BARTOLI, P.L.
F. WETTINGER, P.A.
E. SEMINI.
S. CACHIA ZAMMIT.
AVV. F. MIZZI.

Valletta, March 3, 1902.

Enclosure 2 in No. 14.

"GAZZETTA DI MALTA," March 3, 1902.

(Translation.)

THE PROGRAMME.

We publish to-day in another column of this paper, the programme of the late elected members who, of course, intend to come forward again, in the forthcoming elections, for the suffrage of the electorate.

As our readers will perceive, this programme is a re-confirmation of the one published by the same members as far back as September, 1898, and repeatedly sanctioned by the vote of the electorate.

In putting forward again their candidature, the late elected members declare that they find nothing to alter, add, or strike off that programme.

If they issue to-day their new address to the electors it is in order that the latter may understand the new situation which the Government has created by the menace to abolish the constitution, in case the elected members persisted in the policy which they have so far followed,—a menace uttered by the Secretary of State in the speech delivered in the British Parliament on the 28th January last, and confirmed by His Excellency the Governor in his minute laid on the Council Table on the 12th February, 1902. That menace was not addressed only to the elected members, but to the electorate, as well as to the whole people of Malta.

That menace is tantamount to a challenge; the elected members, by the address they are publishing to-day, declare their acceptance of it; but it is for the electors to decide whether the elected members are taking the proper course, and whether it is in the interest of the island that the glove which the Government has thrown down to the people be picked up.

Therefore, if the electorate, which is the voice of the people of Malta, approves of the line of conduct so far followed by the late elected members as the several popular manifestations which have lately taken place in the shape of *Meetings* and *Petitions* would appear to show—and if the electorate is of opinion that that line of conduct should be proceeded with, let it give its support to the late elected members.

If, however, there are people who disapprove of the policy of the late elected members, or, who, approving of it as far as the past is concerned, think that it should now be altered, they have but to put forward their own candidature, or that of other persons holding the same opinions, with a programme opposed to, or different from, that of the late elected members.

We are sure that the latter would like nothing better than to see their candidature seriously contested, as they feel sure that the general opinion of all classes, and consequently of the electorate, is in perfect harmony with their own opinion—as it has been most clearly proved of late—but, they are always happy to offer the public and the electorate (and especially on this particular occasion) an opportunity to express their opinion, lest the public and the electorate should have changed or somehow modified their views as regards the public questions at issue.

And it is for that reason that some days back we invited—as we do now, and will continue doing to the last moment—whosoever is of opinion that the representatives of the people should, henceforth, follow, towards the Government, a line of conduct different from that followed so far by the late elected members, to come frankly forward, upholding his opinion by means of a programme in order to give the electorate an opportunity of passing judgment on him.

If nobody will do this, it will constitutionally mean that the whole people of these islands are favourable to the programme of the late members, that they approve of their past conduct, and that they wish such conduct to be continued at all costs and risks.

In the address of the late members which we publish to-day, another important point is to be noted—that relative to conciliation.

Mr. Chamberlain spoke of "conciliatory spirit" in his speech of the 28th January in the House of Commons:—His Excellency the Governor spoke of conciliation in his answer to the letter of the National Committee; and the Chief Secretary spoke of conciliation in a speech in the Council of Government, after the resignation of the elected members.

However, not only did these three gentlemen speak in vague and general terms, without hinting as to what such conciliation will consist of, and as to how it could be brought about, but at the time that they were speaking of it, they were giving proof by their acts that they meant to go on with their hypocritical and arbitrary policy.

This notwithstanding, if the Government really means to arrive at an equitable, reasonable, sure and durable conciliation, the elected members declare their readiness, when re-elected, to help the Government, as they are not fighting for mere fun, but because they really wish that the island may have a good Government and may enjoy a secure and durable peace which will lead it to that state of prosperity and contentment which it is the common interest of those who govern and those who are governed, it should attain.

The programme of the late elected members is clear and explicit—if it will be sanctioned by the electorate, as everything seems to show, it will be for the Government to give a proof of that conciliatory spirit which, at least in words, it has manifested the wish to see in others.

No. 15.

Governor Sir F. W. GRENFELL to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

(Received March 12, 1902.)

Sir, The Palace, Valletta, March 7, 1902.

In continuation of the information furnished to you in my despatch of the 10th January,* I have the honour to transmit, herewith, a copy of a Return showing the number of parents or guardians who, up to the end of February, 1902, after the examinations this year, had chosen English or Italian as the secondary language of instruction for children attending the III. Standard in the Government Elementary Schools.

2. I beg also to enclose a copy of another Return showing the number of parents or guardians who up to the 28th ultimo had chosen English only, English and Italian, or Italian only as the language of examination in the higher standards in the same schools, in terms of Government Notice, No. 13, of the 21st January last,† a copy of which I beg to forward for convenience of reference.

I have, &c.,
F. GRENFELL,
Governor.

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* Not printed.

† Not reprinted.

Enclosure 1 in No. 15.

RETURN showing the Number of Parents or Guardians who up to the end of February, 1902, have chosen English or Italian as the Secondary Language of Instruction for their Children who are attending the III. Standard of the Government Elementary Schools, after the Examination in 1902.

Schools.	Date of Examination.	English.				Italian.			
		Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent.	Boys.	Girls.	Total	Per cent.
Lia	February 4th ...	36	41	77	81·9	2	15	17	18·1
Gargur	„ 7th ...	*	*	—	—	*	*	—	—
Gudia	„ 14th ...	*	8	8	100·0	*	—	—	—
Siggieui	„ 18th ...	11	13	24	70·6	2	8	10	29·4
Asciak	„ 20th ...	6	8	14	82·4	1	2	3	17·6
Musta	„ 24th ...	31	27	58	86·6	4	5	9	13·4
Micabiba	„ 27th ...	9	5	14	73·7	5	—	5	26·3
Crendi	„ 28th ...	*	6	6	66·7	*	3	3	33·3
Totals		93	108	201	81·0	14	33	47	19·0

* No selection necessary ; No III. Standard was formed in this school this year after the Annual Examination.

E. MAGRO,
Inspector of Elementary Schools.

Elementary Schools Office,
Valletta, 3rd March, 1902.

Enclosure 2 in No. 15.

RETURN showing the Number of Parents or Guardians who, up to the end of February, 1902, have chosen English, English and Italian, or Italian, as the language of Examination, in the V., VI. and VII. Standards in the Government Elementary Schools, in terms of Government Notice No. 13 of 21st January, 1902.

School.	Date of Examination.	English only.		English and Italian.		Italian only.		Total.			Percentage.		
		Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	English only.	English and Italian.	Italian only.	English only.	English and Italian.	Italian only.
Lia...	February 4th ...	28	5	3	2	2	1	33	5	3	80·5	12·2	7·3
Gargur	„ 7th ...	3	—	—	1	—	—	3	1	—	75·0	25·0	—
*Gudia	„ 14th ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Siggieui	„ 18th ...	12	4	1	—	—	—	16	1	—	94.1	5·9	—
*Asciak	„ 20th ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Musta	„ 24th ...	6	—	9	15	—	—	6	24	—	20·0	80·0	—
Micabiba	„ 27th ...	—	—	6	5	—	—	—	11	—	—	100·0	—
Crendi	„ 28th ...	—	1	5	—	—	—	1	5	—	16·7	83·1	—
Totals		49	10	24	23	2	1	59	47	3	54·1	43·1	2·8

* No selection could be made ; there were no children in this school, this year, in the V., VI. and VII. Standard for Examination.

E. MAGRO,
Inspector of Elementary Schools.

Elementary Schools Office,
Valletta, 1st March, 1902.

No. 16.

GOVERNOR SIR F. W. GRENFELL to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(Received 7 p.m., March 12, 1902.)

TELEGRAM.

All the unofficial members of the Legislative Council have been nominated without opposition.

No. 17.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN to GOVERNOR SIR F. W. GRENFELL.

[Answered by Nos. 21 and 23.]

SIR, Downing Street, March 18, 1902.

UNDER the system at present in force in the Elementary schools of the Colony, Maltese only is taught during the first two years of the school course, and it is not until the end of that period that parents are called upon to decide whether their children shall learn English or Italian, or that any instruction is given in either of those two languages.

2. Representations having been made to me that the two years devoted to instruction in Maltese could be more profitably employed, I caused inquiry to be made as to the system in force in the schools in the Welsh-speaking and Gaelic-speaking districts of Great Britain, and I find that in all cases the teachers begin to give instruction in English at once, to the children in the Elementary schools, who can only speak Welsh or Gaelic.

3. I would therefore ask you to consult the Educational Authorities in Malta, and consider whether it would not be better to call upon parents or guardians to make their choice of English or Italian as soon as their children join the Elementary schools, so that the time which is now entirely devoted to instruction in the Maltese dialect may be partially employed in teaching English or Italian through the medium of that dialect; or whether it would not, at any rate, be possible to reduce the period required for compulsory Maltese from two years to one year, or even less.

4. If, in the case of children joining the Elementary schools it were found impossible to do more than give them instruction in the *colloquial* use of English or Italian, I still think that the system now proposed would be preferable to the present one.

5. I shall be glad to be favoured with your views on this matter at an early date.

I have, &c.,

J. CHAMBERLAIN.

No. 18.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN to GOVERNOR SIR F. W. GRENFELL.

SIR, Downing Street, March 19, 1902.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 22nd of February,* and to inform you that I approve of the action taken by you in the Council

* No. 11.

of Government after the Elected Members had resigned their seats on the 15th of February.

2. I have also to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 25th of February,* transmitting copies of the official report of the debates which took place in the Council at the sittings held on the 29th of January, and the 12th of February, together with translations of extracts from speeches made by Mr. Azzopardi and Dr. Mizzi.

I have, &c.,

J. CHAMBERLAIN.

No. 19.

(Received from the Governor, March 24, 1903.)

STATEMENT showing the number of persons who applied to be registered as Electors and the number of those admitted during the last 5 years.

Year.	General Electors.		Special Electors.	
	Applicants.	Admitted.	Applicants.	Admitted.
1898	642	262	127	96
1899	171	90	33	23
1900	6	4	2	2
1901	15	8	9	8
1902	46	32	12	6

Court of Revision of Electoral Lists.

R. LEONARDINI,
Acting Registrar.

March 15, 1902.

Table of Electors who voted at Elections in 1898 and 1900 out of the respective number of Electors on the Register.

Year.	Nature of Election.	District.	No. of Voters.	No. of Electors.
1898	General ...	3rd, 4th, 6th, 7th, 8th, and 10th.	2,039	5,441
1900	Partial ...	8th	167	659

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* No. 12.

No. 20.

GOVERNOR SIR F. W. GRENFELL to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(Received 10 p.m., March 24, 1902.)

TELEGRAM.

Legislative Council discussed about half of estimate for next year in very reasonable spirit, but put off Educational and Police Force votes to exert pressure for further concessions. Legislative Council put off 26 March, when members of Legislative Council will declare their line of action.

No. 21.

GOVERNOR SIR F. W. GRENFELL to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(Received 11 p.m., March 26, 1902.)

TELEGRAM.

[*Answered by No.* 22.]

March 26. Referring to your despatch of 18 March,* and in view of decisive action being imminent on Educational Votes, I have, with the unanimous advice of Executive Council, issued the following Minute :—

CHIEF SECRETARY,

I DESIRE the following Minute to be read to the Council of Government and laid on the table :—

Representations having been made that the first two years devoted to instruction in the Elementary Schools could be employed to greater advantage and more in accordance with the wishes of a large number of parents and guardians, I have obtained the opinion of the Inspector of Elementary Schools and of other authorities on education, but have not yet had an opportunity to obtain the advice of the General Council of the University on the following reforms, which I now desire to announce, and which will take effect should the General Council not object on any point.

First : A child joining an Elementary School will, at the request of parents or guardians, be taught colloquially English or Italian.

Second : After one year pupils who have learned reading, the simple rules of arithmetic and the elements of religious instruction, will commence to be taught English or Italian.

Third : Parents and guardians will be permitted to choose the language for colloquial instruction at once, on the children entering the school, and on promotion to a higher class. *Minute ends.*

Council of Government has to-day practically passed all recurrent votes for next financial year, except with regard to the Educational Votes, for which, by agreement with the Government, a vote on account for April was unanimously agreed to. The most friendly spirit was evinced on all sides.

No. 22.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN to GOVERNOR SIR F. W. GRENFELL.

(Sent 4.35 p.m., March 31, 1902.)

TELEGRAM.

With reference to your telegram of the 26th March,† I approve of your action.

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* No. 17.

† No. 21.

No. 23.

GOVERNOR SIR F. W. GRENFELL to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(Received April 7, 1902.)

[*Answered by No.* 27.]

SIR, The Palace, Valletta, April 2, 1902.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 18th March,* and to acquaint you that, after all the bearings of the question had been closely considered by the Chief Secretary and by the Acting Rector of the University, with the unanimous consent of all the members of the Executive Council present at the sitting of the 26th of March, I framed the Minute† (of which a copy is enclosed), for presentation to the Council of Government the same afternoon, as the absolutely final concession in regard to the system of education which could be made without falling into contradiction with the speech made by you in the House of Commons, on the 28th January, 1902.

2. I was most anxious to follow your instructions as closely as possible, and at the same time to so word my Minute as not to disorganize the system on which the present educational syllabus was compiled by the Committee which had given great attention to the subject.

3. Moreover, in accordance with paragraph 27 of the Statute of the University, it is necessary that the General Council of the University should be given an opportunity o expressing its opinion on important educational reforms. Since the receipt of your despatch, there has been no opportunity of doing this, either before or after the sitting of last Wednesday. But with a view to preserve the position of the General Council of the University, and not to form a precedent, I inserted in my Minute the reservation which appears in the second paragraph of the same.

4. I forward, in original, for your information, a Minute by the Acting Rector of the University and Inspector of the Elementary Schools, setting out his views in detail on the advice of the educational experts, forwarded with your despatch under acknowledgment, and also his views as to the manner in which the concession granted by my Minute is likely to operate on the future of education in Malta.

5. There is reason to believe that the Elected Members will make another effort in order to make both Italian and English compulsory in the Elementary Schools, notwithstanding that they have been repeatedly informed that no such concession can possibly be made, without stultifying the pledge given on the subject in your speech already referred to, in the following words :—"And I say this—it is the first statement I make with regard to the future—at all hazards and against all opposition we are determined to preserve this freedom of choice."

6. In fact, at the last sitting of the Council, held on the 26th March, the Elected Members appeared to be disposed to accept as final the concession made by the Government, as embodied in the Minute sent herewith ; but Mr. Azzopardi, both at that sitting, and afterwards, in the columns of the "Malta e sue Dipendenze," did not cease from urging the advisability of continuing unabated the opposition to the system of the free choice, and of fighting until the system of teaching simultaneously both Italian and English was again established in the Government Educational Institutions.

7. I also enclose, for your information, a copy of speeches,§ in connection with education, which have lately been delivered in the Council of Government. It has been made clear on several occasions that the period during which Maltese was the exclusive language for instruction was not, in reality, three years, as alleged by the Elected Members, nor even two years.

Debates, Dec. 18.
Debates, 23 and 24, Dec., 1901.

8. I have gathered from several quarters that, in consequence of the steps reported in this despatch, several members of the Council and many prominent politicians were, after the last meeting of the Council of Government, eager to give up tactics of obstruction. It is also certain that if such tactics were further pursued, they would not have popular support ; a general feeling of satisfaction appears to be gaining ground, but the

* No. 17. † *See* No. 21. ‡ Not printed. § Not reprinted.

influence of the "Malta e sue Dipendenze" (Dr. Mizzi's organ), will check the spread of good feeling, and may induce the Elected Members to press for further concessions, which, under no circumstances whatever, should be granted.

I have, &c.,
F. GRENFELL,
Governor.

Enclosure in No. 23.

SIR, Elementary Schools Office, Valletta, March 31, 1902.

I HAVE the honour to submit, for the consideration of His Excellency the Governor, the following report on the substance of the Secretary of State's despatch of the 18th instant, concerning certain modifications proposed to be introduced into the system of instruction now in force in the Elementary Schools.

2. The question of education, and more especially of elementary instruction, in Malta, is indeed a complicated one, and from the peculiar circumstances of the island, rather difficult to solve.

3. However, in approaching this subject, I would beg leave to point out, in the first instance, that ever since the Elementary Schools were established in Malta in 1819, the necessity of beginning instruction in the Maltese language has invariably been recognised. It is, in fact, well known that for at least the last seventy years there have been about as many systems of elementary instruction as there have been Directors of Elementary Schools. But, however much those systems may have differed from each other in their main scope, Maltese has always been taught as a separate subject for more or less lengthened periods.

4. It was, in fact, this axiom that guided the members of the School Management Committee, in the early days of the Elementary Schools. It was this principle that the successive Directors of Elementary Instruction in the island had in view in framing their various schemes. It was this same principle that prompted the General Council of the University to approve of the schemes submitted to them relating to the Maltese language. It was this consideration that induced the late Sir P. F. Keenan, K.C.M.G., the Royal Commissioner specially sent in 1878 to enquire into, and report upon, the system of education in Malta, to recommend the general cultivation of the Maltese language. And lastly, it was this fact which the special Commission, appointed in 1898 for the compilation of proper text-books for the Elementary Schools, the members of which had spent all their life in connection with education, had in view when they framed the present scheme of elementary instruction.

5. Consequently, the representation made to the effect that the two years at present devoted to instruction in Maltese could be more profitably employed, appears to have been made by persons but imperfectly conversant with the real needs of the people of the island.

6. However that may be, it may be remarked that, although apparently forming a subject of instruction in the first two standards, Maltese really is not taught as a language. As a matter of fact the teaching of such a language, with its grammatical intricacies and difficulty in writing, has never, and can never, be attempted with success or practical utility to the younger children in the lower standards, or even to the very few that remain in school long enough to reach the higher standards. What is actually being done is simply giving instruction through the medium of Maltese, which appears to be the only rational method of imparting instruction to our children, the majority of whom belong to the labouring classes, who possess a knowledge of no other language but Maltese. Further, it may be stated here that formerly children were kept for a much longer period than they are at present in mastering such monotonous and meaningless groupings of letters and syllables as spelling books of the older type contained.

Under the present system, besides teaching the letters, syllables and formation of words by word-building, we give as much information as is compatible with the tender age of the scholars in the lower standards. The experience of the last four years, during which the present system has been in operation, fully shows that children derive special advantages from it.

Our children, in fact, at the end of the course of Maltese, are found to have acquired the ability to read with relative ease the foreign language chosen for them, in a remarkably short time, after promotion to Standard III.

7. The statement that the *two* years are devoted to instruction in Maltese is, again' apparently made under misapprehension. Children are not necessarily two years in the first two standards. As soon as they master the subjects of Standard I., pupils are promoted to Standard II. during the year, or where they are proficient enough, even to Standard III. Such promotions are made, not only with respect to bright children, but frequently with respect to entire classes. A case in point occurred within the last week, when a number of pupils were promoted directly from the first to the third standard. And it is with a view to afford facilities for such promotion that special inspections are held half yearly, or even at shorter intervals, when expedient.

8. The proposal to begin to teach a foreign language in Standard I., I am afraid, is one that cannot be put into practice with any reasonable hope of success. A system embodying a similar principle was tried for several years, but with disastrous results, and had to be abandoned, notwithstanding the fact that the foreign language taught simultaneously with Maltese was Italian. The case of Maltese children is not quite parallel to that of the children of the Welsh or Gaelic speaking districts of Great Britain. In Great Britain education is compulsory, and children attend school to the age of 14 years ; whilst in Malta education is not compulsory, and children are generally withdrawn from school at a very early age, on an average at about 9.3 years. And this means that the education received by pupils in our Elementary Schools practically extends only over two years. Moreover, our children have no opportunity of hearing any other language but their own spoken, out of school, except, indeed, in very rare cases.

9. But while I am of opinion that it would be unadvisable to give instruction in Maltese simultaneously with a foreign language in the first standard, especially as it would completely disorganize a system of instruction which has been found to work satisfactorily, I fully concur that it is quite possible and advantageous to give instruction in the colloquial use of English or Italian. As a matter of fact, I felt the utility of such a step, shortly after the present system came into operation, and, with the approval of Government, I gave directions, about two years ago, that notation and numeration, the names of the parts of the body, of relationship, of animals, of common simple objects, of articles of ordinary furniture, common adjectives, and the like, should be also taught in English, colloquially, in the lower standards, although such provision was not made in the Scheme. And I am happy to report that this measure has been attended with great success in nearly all the schools.

10. Under the circumstances, I see no objection to the present system being so amended as to formally allow colloquial instruction in English or Italian, at the choice of the parent or guardian, to pupils attending the lower standards in the Elementary Schools, and that as soon as pupils show that they have learned the rudiments of religious doctrine, and are able to read and to work the four rules of arithmetic, they should be promoted to the third standard.

I have, &c.,
E. Magro,
Inspector of Elementary Schools.

The Honourable
The Chief Secretary to Government.

No. 24.

GOVERNOR SIR F. W. GRENFELL to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(Received April 9, 1902.)

SIR, The Palace, Valletta, April 5, 1902.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 7th ultimo,* forwarding returns prepared by Prof. Magro, showing the choice of a secondary language of instruction in the Elementary

* No. 15.

Schools, made by parents or guardians of children attending the third Standard of such schools, I have now the honour to transmit the enclosed return showing the choice made up to the end of March last.

2. The numbers now given for the schools at Siggieui, Micabiba, Crendi, Misida, Curmi and Hamrun, are not the same as those given in the return dated the 3rd ultimo, mentioned in the first paragraph of my despatch above quoted, or those shown in a subsequent return dated the 24th ultimo, which was laid on the table of the Council of Government at the sitting held on the 24th March (copy herewith).* This difference is due to the fact that there have been increases in the former numbers caused by new admissions, or promotions from the first standard, and to the important circumstance that some of the parents who had chosen Italian have now declared for English.

3. This change on the part of parents may be ascribed to the fact that those parents who, under the political influences which had been brought to bear on them, had chosen Italian, are now looking at the situation in a calmer and unbiassed frame of mind, and are realising that it is in the interests of their children that they should learn English as their principal language of instruction.

I have, &c.,
F. GRENFELL,
Governor.

Enclosure in No. 24.

Return showing the number of parents or guardians who, up to date, have chosen English or Italian as the secondary language of instruction for their children, who are attending the third standard of the Government Elementary Schools after the examination in 1902:—

Schools.	Date of Examination.	English.				Italian.			
		Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent.
Lia	Feb. 4	36	41	77	81·9	2	15	17	18·1
Gargur ...	Feb. 7	†	†	—	—	†	†	—	—
Gudia	Feb. 14	†	8	8	100 0	†	—	—	—
Siggieui ...	Feb. 18	13	13	26	76·5	—	8	8	24·5
Asciak ...	Feb. 20	6	8	14	82·4	1	2	3	17·6
Musta	Feb. 24	31	27	58	86·6	4	5	9	13·4
Micabiba ...	Feb. 27	12	5	17	89·5	2	—	2	11·5
Crendi ...	Feb. 28	†	9	9	100·0	†	—	—	—
Misida... ...	Mar. 4	28	48	76	96·2	1	2	3	3·8
Chircop ...	Mar. 7	†	†	—	—	†	†	—	—
Naxaro ...	Mar. 10	14	4	18	43·9	9	14	23	56·1
Curmi	Mar. 12	29	21	50	70·4	9	12	21	29·6
Luca	Mar. 17	22	12	34	97·1	1	—	1	2·9
Hamrun ...	Mar. 20	30	41	71	85·5	1	11	12	14·5
Totals ...	—	221	237	458	82·2	30	69	99	17·8

Elementary Schools Office, Valletta,
March 31, 1902.

E. MAGRO,
Inspector of Elementary Schools.

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* Not printed.

† No selection made; No. III. Standard was formed in this school, this year, after the annual examination.

No. 25.

GOVERNOR SIR F. W. GRENFELL to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(Received April 12, 1902.)

SIR, The Palace, Valletta, April 8, 1902.

I HAVE the honour to transmit, herewith, for your information, copies of a minute* laid on the Table of the Council of Government at the sitting held on the 26th ultimo.

2. This Minute sets forth certain modifications which I felt it expedient to make in regard to colloquial instruction to be imparted to the children attending the Elementary Schools during the first two years.

3. I have been careful to only introduce such changes as could be adopted without interfering with the working of the programme of Studies in those Schools without risk of deranging the system which has now worked very satisfactorily since 1899.

4. As the Statute of the University provides for the establishment of such Programmes, with the advice of the General Council of the University (and the present programme was, in fact, considered and approved by that Council on the 3rd of April, 1899, before being submitted for my approval), the announcement of such changes in the Council of Government was made, subject to the concurrence of the General Council of the University, which was obtained on Friday the 4th instant.†

5. I have reason to believe that the further concessions thus made in connection with the Education question have been fully appreciated by the general public.

6. The Chief Secretary when presenting the Minute to the Council, informed the Elected Members, by my direction, that these were the utmost concessions that could be made without clashing with the views of His Majesty's Government, as expressed in the speech delivered by you in the House of Commons on the 28th January last, and adopted by the Imperial Parliament.

I have, &c.,
F. GRENFELL,
Governor.

No. 26.

GOVERNOR SIR F. W. GRENFELL to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(Received April 15, 1902.)

[*Answered by Nos.* 29 *and* 31.]

SIR, The Palace, Valletta, April 11, 1902.

I HAVE the honour to forward, for your information, a translation of a letter addressed to me by Dr. F. Mizzi, on behalf of the Elected Members of the Council of Government, on the 3rd instant, requesting an interview in connection with political questions.

2. I thought it politic to receive the deputation, and on the following day I caused the reply (of which a copy is enclosed) to be addressed to Dr. Mizzi, in which a warning was given that I was not prepared to entertain any proposal tending to alter any point enunciated in the policy explained in the speech delivered by you in the House of Commons on the 28th of January. I regret, however, that this letter appears to have been mislaid in Dr. Mizzi's printing office, as explained by him in his letter dated the 8th instant, in reply to a letter of the 7th, giving him a fresh appointment.

3. The deputation of the Elected Members was composed of Dr. Mizzi, Mr. A. M. Micallef and Mr. S. Cachia Zammit. I desired the Chief Secretary and the Crown Advocate to be present at the interview, and caused shorthand notes to be taken.

4. I enclose a copy of the report furnished by the shorthand writer, and revised by me.

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* See No. 21. † See Enclosure in No. 28.

5. The statement made by Dr. Mizzi amounts to a request for the re-opening of all the important questions which have been finally disposed of by your speech above referred to. He urged that the form of the Constitution should be such as to free the Elected Members from the "tutelage of the official element."

6. Mr. Cachia Zammit was in favour of a compromise "on the principle of give and take."

7. Mr. A. M. Micallef was less reserved than either of his colleagues, and requested the imposition of compulsory Italian in the system of education, and the making of that language, and the English language, obligatory for all the professions.

8. On the above questions I do not desire to add anything to the reports that have already been submitted to you.

9. I informed the deputation that their representations would be submitted to you as soon as possible, and I beg to request that your reply may be communicated at the earliest opportunity.

I have, &c.,
F. GRENFELL,
Governor.

Enclosure 1 in No. 26.

EXCELLENCY, Valletta, April 3, 1902.

IT is the wish of the Elected Members of the Council of Government to approach Your Excellency for the purpose of seeing whether it be possible to arrive at a satisfactory solution of the questions which agitate the country.

I, therefore, beg Your Excellency to name a date and hour at which, accompanied by one or two of my colleagues, I could confer with Your Excellency for the purpose indicated.

I have, &c.,
AVV. FORTUNATO MIZZI.

His Excellency
Sir Francis W. Grenfell, G.C.M.G., G.C.B.,
Governor of Malta and its Dependencies,
Palace.

Enclosure 2 in No. 26.

SIR, Chief Secretary's Office, Malta, April 4, 1902.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 3rd instant, and to acquaint you that His Excellency will be glad to receive you, one of the representatives of the Special Electors, and one of the representatives of the General Electors, at 11.30 a.m., on the 7th instant.

2. I am directed by His Excellency to add that if the object of the interview is in connection with any feature of the language question, it should be borne in mind that, as already intimated in the Council of Government, His Excellency is not authorized to entertain any proposal tending to alter any point enunciated in the policy explained in the speech delivered by Mr. Chamberlain, and concurred in by the Imperial Parliament, in the House of Commons on the 28th January, 1902.

I have, &c.,
G. STRICKLAND,
Chief Secretary to Government.

The Honourable
F. Mizzi, LL.D.,
&c., &c., &c.

Enclosure 3 in No. 26.

SIR, Valletta, April 8, 1902.

I ACKNOWLEDGE the receipt of your letter of yesterday, forwarding a copy of a former letter forwarded to me on the 4th instant, and I request you to inform His Excellency the Governor that yesterday. immediately after the interview I had the honour to have with His Excellency, I insisted on the original of that letter being looked for in my printing press. The letter was found late in the evening. The manager of my press, who had received it, had put it aside in order to hand it to me, but had afterwards forgotten all about it. As you will observe, I am not to blame if, notwithstanding the prompt reply which by order of His Excellency had been sent to me, the letter did not reach me. I beg that His Excellency may excuse any inconvenience which I may have unwillingly caused to him on the account of the letter having been mislaid.

I have, &c.,
F. MIZZI.

The Honourable
The Chief Secretary to Government.

Enclosure 4 in No. 26.

SIR, Chief Secretary's Office, Malta, April 7, 1902.

I beg leave to forward to you, herewith, a copy of the letter I had the honour to address to you on the 4th instant, respecting an interview with His Excellency the Governor, which has now been put off to Wednesday next, at noon.

I have, &c.,
GEO. BORG. CARDONA,
Deputy Assistant Secretary,
for Chief Secretary to Government.

The Honourable
F. Mizzi, LL.D.,
&c., &c., &c.

Enclosure 5 in No. 26.

REPORT of an interview granted by His Excellency the Governor to Mr. A. M. Micallef, Representative of the Nobles and Landowners in the Council of Government, Dr. Mizzi, the Member for Gozo, and Mr. S. Cachia Zammit, the Member for the Ninth District (Zeitun), in the presence of the Chief Secretary to Government and the Crown Advocate, on the 9th April, 1902.

Dr. Mizzi.—We have come to see whether these questions could find any better solution than they have had. We note that Your Excellency has told us that you would not go beyond what is said in Mr. Chamberlain's speech ; but I hope that some consideration may be given to our reasons. We have already made a great step towards the Government in proposing legislation about judgments in the Civil and Criminal Courts. Your Excellency may see that it was a great mortification for us to come to terms, and for a people, that consider themselves an educated and civilized people, to make two laws, one for the English and one for the Maltese. However, wishing to take off any friction, and the idea that Englishmen could not have justice administered to them in Malta, we condescended with great mortification, and I think that that step should be taken into consideration.

In the second place, Mr. Chamberlain proposed the choice. Well, I suppose that that means that everyone is given a free choice to select English or Italian, or both ; and as everyone almost has selected both, the same consideration must be given in the Lyceum to both languages, and that they will both be put on the same step. (I allude now to the Lyceum.) I say put them in the same condition because otherwise this selection would be rather a bad thing than a good one. Since Mr. Chamberlain thinks he must insist upon this selection, it should be given all the effect that is necessary. I think the first consequence is that both languages should in the Lyceum be put on the same step. About the details we can come to an agreement if we agree to this conclusion, because it would be necessary to put them in the same step. But that, as I say, is a a matter of detail.

As to the Primary Schools, the choice was not given in the same conditions as to the Lyceum, because only one language is proposed to be taught, and not both languages, as it would be our desire; but, since, in the Lyceum there can be choice of both, from the Primary Schools they must come prepared for both languages also, and consequently they should have the means to attain this end. All of us have been in Schools; no one was born knowing to read and write; and I remember very well that I have been put in an English school, and in this school both A B C's were taught to us from the very moment we entered the school. This question of language arose in 1880; the system had been this, and it always gave good result. Then I think there should also be another reform about the examinations for offices. We also should like to put both languages on the same step, and that what is required for one language should be required for the other. I would also like to speak about translations. I think we are spending a lot of money not only uselessly but, I think, with great harm. To-day translations are being put together with the acts; but no one reads them. We treat the questions on the Italian original, and no one goes to see whether the translations are well done or not; but as I have had occasion to read some of them, I am quite sure that, if once the English language will be introduced into the Courts, the greatest number of the cases before the Courts will arise on the translations. Those translations will become originals, and those translations will give rise to a very great number of questions. To-day the thing is not looked after most closely, but to-morrow these questions will be a source of damage. In the meanwhile, we are spending money for nothing. There is a great number of translations made absolutely uselessly. The translation should be made when one of the parties demands it; that is right for the English party, but not for the Maltese. To this there would be no objection. It might be said, if translations are to be made on demand of a party who is an English-born subject, when the first act arrives to this person in Italian, he does not understand what it contains, and that objection may be overcome very easily and in this manner. The first act of any suit, that is the citation, or libel, or, in some cases, the petition, should be accompanied with a translation always with the exclusion of such cases in which either the advocate or the legal procurator can assure on oath that the person on whom the act is to be served is a Maltese. And so the objection would be most easily overcome.

We should like to have a Committee rather on a liberal footing of independent men, or if not entirely, at least not less than was the case with the late Senate, to look over the question and procure that this agitation should be ended. I am speaking of the question of instruction. I hope Your Excellency will see that this question is doing a very great harm to education. It lasts now since 1878, 23 years or a little more; and in these 23 years the public instruction has been made a question of politics, with great harm to education itself; and we should like to see it settled absolutely and for ever. We hope that Your Excellency will do your best in that way.

Then comes the question of taxes. That question reposes on whether the Maltese people are rich or not. Mr. Chamberlain said that we are very rich, so rich, not only to bear these taxes, but also fresh taxes.

His Excellency.—I do not think he ever said that.

Dr. Mizzi.—These taxes are a burden; and I am sure that the people cannot bear them. Even persons of our own rank feel them very much, especially the stamp duty. These taxes have also caused much harm in commerce; this was most clearly shown by the Chamber of Commerce, and we wish Your Excellency to appoint a Committee to see what reforms should be done in the public administration in order to make economies. In 1880, or thereabouts, Mr. Julian came for this purpose; after that, the expenses have been centuplicated, instead of making any economy.

I must also speak about the Constitution. Sir, we are threatened frequently— too frequently—with its abolition, because we do not agree with the Government on certain questions, and, of course, if this Constitution is to be abolished, it is for us quite the same; but we wish that a fair Constitution be given to the people that would not interfere with the Fortress and the Naval Station; as for that, I can assure Your Excellency no one wishes to have any right to make any difficulties in that way, and whatever has been our action in these three years in the Council, I hope that Your Excellency will do us the justice, that whenever an Ordinance came about Military rights we have always been ready to vote it. There is an Ordinance existing, and I believe it consists of only one article, which gives Your Excellency the most ample power to impede a man to put out

his head from the window of his house. That is an emphatic expression. That Ordinance as it is written, gives that power ; I am sure that Your Excellency has never looked at it in that light ; but if we should have a capricious Governor he could, with that Ordinance impede any motion of any person. We have, however, passed it. We do not think we shall ever have a bad Head of the Government ; but we did not object even to this Ordinance. Let Your Excellency read that article ; and you will see that the powers it gives are so ample that the Head of the Government, if he wants to abuse of it, may abuse of it under the protection of the law. However, we did not object to it, being sure of the justice of our Governors ; but we have given to the Governor the most ample power to paralyze any person. And so we have passed several other Ordinances. We have shown our readiness to help the Government in what concerns the Military liberty of the "defence." In any way, I hope that that will always be the case with us, and also with our successors. But what we wish is, that our local affairs and concerns be left to us without any tutelage of the official element. This is, in general, what we have to submit to Your Excellency, and we are here so that if any remarks are found by Your Excellency to be unjust, we are ready to withdraw them.

His Excellency.—The Secretary of State has already laid down the policy of His Majesty's Government on the points to which you have referred, and that policy was accepted by the Imperial Parliament, and it is, therefore, impossible for me to argue on any of these questions. As regards fresh taxes, you must be under a false impression in the idea that Mr. Chamberlain, or anyone else, has stated that he intends to propose any further taxes ; on the contrary, when, by reason of the insanitary state of the Island, taxes became necessary, and on account of the high rate of mortality—especially the infant death-rate—it was considered absolutely necessary that the drainage system should be extended and completed, I recommended that the taxation that was imposed by Order in Council should be spread over thirteen years, and that at the end of that time, when these various public works are completed, it will be necessary that a fresh Ordinance be submitted to the Council to continue the present system of taxation, if required. As regards the other questions, the only matter not mentioned by Mr. Chamberlain is the questions of translations. The remarks which you have made will be forwarded to the Secretary of State. But it seems to me that his views are very clearly stated in his speech, and I cannot, therefore, express any hope whatever that Mr. Chamberlain will be willing to change them.

Dr. Mizzi.—We hope that they will be backed by Your Excellency.

His Excellency.—I have my direct orders, and my orders are that the policy of the Government is to be that which is expressed in Mr. Chamberlain's speech.

Mr. Cachia Zammit.—The logical consequence of the withdrawal of the Proclamation would be a reform of the educational establishments of these Islands ; if a reform should take place, I would suggest that the *pari passu* system should be established in the Lyceum as it was formerly, and that the Maltese language should be the medium of instruction in the Elementary Schools. I think that the suggestions made by Sir Adrian Dingli in the letter he wrote to Sir Patrick Keenan should be the foundation of a thorough reform in the Elementary Schools. I don't see the use of teaching the Maltese language in the Elementary Schools ; but Maltese should, I think, be the medium of instruction.

As to the Constitution, I suggest that a line should, if possible, be drawn between Imperial interests and local concerns. I think that the Elected Members, the representatives of the People, should have complete control of purely local questions as distinguished from Imperial interests, and then we might, to use Mr. Chamberlain's words, be allowed "to play ducks and drakes" with our local concerns. But, so far, his assertion is not well founded. Without entering into more details, I say that these questions should be amicably and equitably settled, and that a compromise should be arrived at on the principle of give and take. We have already given something to the Government—we have conceded that trials of Englishmen should be conducted in English ; but we don't see the use of translating all these documents ; the Treasury is saddled with the expense of about £2,000 a year, but what is the use of it ? I have heard from all sides that the Maltese gentlemen who receive citations, petitions, &c., ask : "What is the use of sending us the translations, let them be limited to English people ?" And I think that the remark is a very reasonable one. As far as taxes are concerned, I always contended that they ought to have been a voluntary grant of the Council, and that it was

a rather arbitrary act on the part of the Imperial Government to tax the people without their consent. But I repeat once more, the wish that all questions, now on a fair way of settlement, may be amicably and equitably settled, and the discontent which exists will disappear.

Dr. Mizzi.—I wish to add that, as to the translations, I consider the question from a financial view; as to the question of language, whether there be the translations or not, for us it is the same. No one reads them; I am sure not five per cent. read the translations; they send the Italian paper to their Counsel and he acts upon it. And if you go to the processes, you see the English translations folded up.

Mr. Cachia Zammit.—We are sure that Your Excellency has at heart the well being and the good Government of these Islands; it is your interest, and also our interest. We wish that this discontent should disappear once for ever, and there will not be a more devoted people than the Maltese.

His Excellency.—When I first came to Malta, you spoke to me very strongly on the question of the language of the Courts, and I recommended that the question should be considered; but although this great change has been introduced, we have received from the Elected Members no thanks and no acknowledgment.

Dr. Mizzi.—If there were a promise that never would English be imposed on the profession, that would have been a concession; but Mr. Chamberlain first laid down 20 years for the change; and now he says he will expect that things may be settled by themselves. If it were in our hands to interfere with the system of instruction the thing would be different. But so far, Mr. Chamberlain keeps the instruction in his own hands, and the system is in such a manner that Italian may die and that English may never die.

His Excellency.—Mr. Chamberlain says "free choice."

Dr. Mizzi.—We know what is the free choice; it does not depend from the Maltese; it depends from the Government. We have made a modification of the law about instruction, and it was always vetoed. Since the instruction has remained in the hands of the Government, the grant is not a grant. We hope that Your Excellency's words will be heard in obtaining a settlement of this question, and that it will be settled altogether. If we only settle one corner we will have settled nothing. As I said, I consider the question of the translation of Acts into English merely as a question of finance.

Mr. A. M. Micallef.—We should like that in all the professions—advocates, physicians, &c.—both languages should be obliged—Italian and English. If this is arranged nobody will speak about it. This is the best thing. If all the professions will be obliged to know both Italian and English, I hope we will arrive. If you will obtain this, you will make a very good thing. It is a thing which we can obtain, and perhaps Sir Gerald will help us.

Sir Gerald Strickland.—I can hold out no illusion in that direction.

No. 27.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN to GOVERNOR SIR F. W. GRENFELL.

SIR, Downing Street, April 16, 1902.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 2nd of April,* transmitting a copy of a report by the Inspector of Elementary Schools on the subject of the proposed modification of the present system of instruction in those schools, together with a copy of the Minute on the same subject, which you caused to be presented to the Council of Government on the 26th of March.

2. I approve of the action which you have taken in this matter.

I have, &c.,
J. CHAMBERLAIN.

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* No. 23.

No. 28.

GOVERNOR SIR F. W. GRENFELL to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(Received April 19, 1902.)

SIR, The Palace, Valletta, April 14, 1902.

I HAVE the honour to forward, for your information, a copy of the proceedings of the General Council of the University, at the sitting held on the 4th instant, when the changes recently introduced in the system of Instruction in the Elementary Schools, reported in my despatch, of the 8th instant,* were submitted to, and approved by, the General Council.

I have, &c.,
F. GRENFELL,
Governor.

Enclosure in No. 28.

General Council of the University, Sitting No. 40, Friday, April 4, 1902.

The Minutes of the preceding sitting were read and confirmed.

Before the Council proceeded to discuss the contents of the Minute of His Excellency the Governor, of the 26th March, 1902, involving a reform in the system of instruction in Government Elementary Schools, the President explained the circumstances under which these reforms were announced to the Legislative Council before the advice of the General Council could have been obtained. The President desired the Secretary to read the sections of the Statute under which the matter had been referred to the General Council, and drew attention to the clause which made it undesirable to the Council to travel beyond the points immediately referred to it by the Governor, viz., an expression of the view of the General Council on the merits of the changes proposed. The President also drew attention to the educational policy intimated in Mr. Chamberlain's speech in the House of Commons on the 28th January, 1902, which His Majesty's Government was resolved to pursue, viz., that of absolute freedom of choice as between English and Italian, and to the adoption by the Secretary of State of the view that "all experts in education say that any attempt to teach very young children two languages besides their own results in their learning neither."

After a full discussion on the merits of the Minute, and on points bearing on the subject, the Council unanimously approved the proposals contained in the Minute. The Council desired to suggest that the Minute should be understood as if the word "each" had been inserted between "on" and "promotion" in Clause 3, in order to make the sense clearer; but on Mr. Churchward pointing out that the English original clearly had the meaning desired by the General Council, the suggestion was not pressed.

Professor Caruana made the proposal, which was ruled out of order, that children, on joining the school, should be given a third choice, viz., to be taught both the English and the Italian languages at the same time. After a full explanation of the present system, whereby in the IV. and V. Standards, both English and Italian are taught to all, the proposal of Professor Caruana was not seconded.

With regard to the second order, that of providing for the teachership of religion in the Lyceum, the Council was unanimously of opinion that, as the teachers of religion were not paid out of "Personal Emoluments," the Council need not be consulted on the matter.

With reference to the appointment of a lecturer on Canon Law in the Faculty of Law, in view of the absence of two, out of three, representatives of the Faculty of Law, the consideration of the matter was postponed to the next meeting.

The Council was adjourned *sine die*.

G. STRICKLAND.

A true copy:
E. MAGRO,
Rector.
April 12, 1902.

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* No. 25.

No. 29.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN to GOVERNOR SIR F. W. GRENFELL.

(Sent 1.35 p.m., April 25, 1902.)

TELEGRAM.

Referring to your despatch of April 11,* please inform deputation that I have considered representations but that policy of Government expressed in my speech in the House of Commons, January 28, will be pursued, and that no attempt to reopen questions referred to by them can be entertained. Despatch† follows by mail.

No. 30.

GOVERNOR SIR F. W. GRENFELL to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(Received 6.50 p.m., April 25, 1902.)

TELEGRAM.

It appears to me clear, after Council of Government on 23 April, that leaders and other unofficial members of Council will not vote for educational estimates of further expenditure for 11 months unless the Government pledges themselves in favour of educational establishment to be controlled by unofficial members of Council, and unless the foreign language of Italy will be made paramount in all matters of instruction.

If the said estimates of expense are finally rejected, propose to authorize prorogation of Council of Government, and until further orders to issue warrants against the nine thousand pounds under clause No. 1 of Order in Council of 26 September last.

No. 31.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN to GOVERNOR SIR F. W. GRENFELL.

SIR, Downing Street, April 25, 1902.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 11th of April,* and to request you, in confirmation of my telegram of this date,‡ to inform the deputation from the Elected Members, which waited on you on the 9th instant, that I have carefully considered their representations, but that the policy of the Government, as expressed in my speech in the House of Commons on the 28th of January, will be pursued, and that no attempt to reopen the questions referred to by them can be entertained.

I have, &c.,
J. CHAMBERLAIN.

No. 32.

GOVERNOR SIR F. W. GRENFELL to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(Received 1.30 p.m., May 1, 1902.)

TELEGRAM.

May 1. Yesterday I addressed following Minute to Chief Secretary, and ordered him to lay it on the table.

> "Chief Secretary. I consider that the Education Votes have been fully discussed, and that there is nothing new on the main question that can be usefully repeated. The course taken by you of accepting a vote on account at the sitting of the 26th of March, though approved of under the very exceptional circumstances of that occasion, would not now be justifiable; therefore any any further postponement or any temporising expedient tending to evade a decision on the vote for the financial year will be taken as a rejection of vote."

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* No. 26. † No. 31. ‡ No. 29.

At meeting of Council Elected Members rejected ten months of recurrent education votes for the second time, voting one month only; several other votes connected with education and school sanitation being also rejected, Mizzi stating that at the end of the month, unless educational policy of the Government was subordinated to that of Elected Members on the language question, no further vote would be granted. As by above Minute I had warned Council that evasion or postponement of votes would be taken as rejection, I adjourned for three weeks to await your orders.

No. 33.

EXTRACTS from SPEECHES in the COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT by DR. BONNICI, DR. MIZZI, and MR. AZZOPARDI.

(Received from the Governor May 7, 1902.)

(1.)

TRANSLATION of an extract from a speech delivered in the Council of Government by Dr. Bonnici on 21st March, 1902.

DR. BONNICI—I hope that His Excellency as a brave soldier . . . . . Mr. Chamberlain said: "Well, I have withdrawn the Proclamation regarding the language of the Courts, and you should be satisfied, thoroughly satisfied, and should thank me." What should we thank him for? Does Mr. Chamberlain think that we are such idiots as not to perceive that the language question is not limited to the Courts? The language of the Courts is a question of detail. The language question is involved principally in the system of imparting primary instruction. If in the primary schools an education is given which is purely English, I am certain that in five years' time, or in six years' time, the children who attend those schools, finding that they possess a better knowledge of English than of Italian, will, they themselves, petition the Minister, saying: "Sir, you have said that in 20 years' time the language of the tribunals is to be changed; but we beg you to introduce English from to-day, not only in the tribunals, but in all departments; because we are better masters of English than we are of Italian, which we have never been taught." Chamberlain may have thought of misleading the Italian nation with honeyed words and with vain promises, but we will be no party to his game, and will not allow ourselves to be deceived.

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(2.)

EXTRACT from a speech delivered by Dr. F. Mizzi in the Council of Government on the 23rd of April, 1902.

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With regard to the evil arising from the use of bad Italian, which he laments, we will only obviate that evil when we are relieved from the incubus of the English language. The more the Italian language is opposed, the stronger will its position become, and it is now flourishing. It is not long ago that we heard of the work of a Maltese which is being praised in Italy. But whether our Italian be good or bad, it is Italian that we must speak. That is the language we have received from Mother Nature, and that is the language which we shall speak in spite of all the power of England, and in spite of all rifles and bayonets the Italian language will not be swept out of Malta. We have declared this, and we will stand by it till we have a drop of blood left. The more the Government endeavours to turn us into Englishmen, the more shall our triumph be assured.

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(3.)

EXTRACT from a speech delivered by Dr. Mizzi in the Council of Government on the 23rd April, 1902.

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And I hope that some good soul, enjoying influence with the Government, will turn up, who will place before the eyes of the Secretary of State the justice of the facts, and bring about, by so doing, the cessation of the cause of friction between us. But if this does not come about, if after the lapse of a month (during which we too will do everything in our power to make England understand our reasons), justice will not have been done to us, we will not vote the estimates. I think we are warding off the catastrophe because we want to avoid it. We do not want to be the cause of it. We do not want that it may be said of us that we have not adopted all the means which could conduce us to our goal. We will be equally prudent and patient. Let no one think us irresolute because we are resorting to these means. This is the last attempt. And if we have not thought fit to reject the votes as a whole, we will do so when the votes for the period from 1st June will be proposed to us.

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(4.)

TRANSLATION of an extract from a speech delivered by Mr. Azzopardi, at the Sitting of the Council of Government, of the 30th April, 1902.

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But until the education question is finally decided, according to the wants of the country and the unanimous will of the population, we are unable to vote, even a farthing, for public education. If the Government want to close the schools they may do so; that will be an advantage gained by the Maltese, because since they cannot have a system of education adapted to their wants and to their character, it is better that they should have no education at all. Without a national education the Maltese will become hybrid beings, deserving to be universally despised.

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No. 34.

GOVERNOR SIR F. W. GRENFELL to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(Received May 13, 1902.)

[*Answered by No. 36.*]

SIR, The Palace, Valletta, May 9, 1902.

I HAVE the honour to report, for your information, that the Elected Members, at the sitting of the Council held on the 30th April, rejected the following votes, viz.:—

£350 for converting a Government building into a new Elementary School and Police Station (draft estimate herewith.*)

£100, to make up the salary of the Veterinary Surgeon to £350 a year, his present salary;

£100, for a Branch Post Office at Melleha.

2. I consider the arguments used by the Elected Members in rejecting these votes for urgent and important services to have been quite unjustifiable; and that the services are most urgent. I have, therefore, issued warrants on my own responsibility for the sums above named.

3. The provision in West Valletta of an overflow space for an existing school has long been a need, for which it is necessary to provide, in justice to the poorer

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* Not printed.

classes of the population, whose children were being refused admission into the present schools for want of sufficient accommodation. An old Government house was assigned for the purpose, but its sanitary condition called for the above moderate outlay. To this the Elected Members objected, as they disapprove of adding school space wherein a system of education is adopted which they do not approve.

4. The Salary paid to the Veterinary Surgeon is £350, but the Council had, in former Sessions, refused to vote that amount, mainly on the plea that someone might be found to serve for less than the present holder of that post, Mr. Macfarlane, and the majority reduced that amount to £250. The services which Mr. Macfarlane is rendering to the Government are most valuable, and there is no reason to think that an efficient English Veterinary Surgeon would serve at the pay proposed by the Elected Members. There are no Maltese qualified for the post. If this salary were reduced we should lose the services of Mr. Macfarlane.

5. The vote intended for the Melleha Branch Post Office, established because of the vicinity of a large Military Camp, was opposed on the excuse that it would not prove self-supporting, and although it was urged on behalf of the Government that there was a large profit on the management of the postal service of the Colony, which should be applied towards affording facilities to the letter-writing public, irrespective of nationality, the Elected Members were not open to reason, and rejected the vote. This Post Office has been established for some months. There is reason to believe that it will eventually prove remunerative, and unless I issue a Warrant of Advance, it must be closed.

6. Under these circumstances, I venture to request your covering authority to charge the warrants I have issued for the above amounts to the £9,000 provided by Clause 1 of the Order in Council of the 26th September, 1901.

I have, &c.,
F. GRENFELL,
Governor.

No. 35.

GOVERNOR SIR F. W. GRENFELL to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(Received 11 a.m., May 24, 1902.)

TELEGRAM.

Somewhat unexpectedly Elected Members passed Education Estimates for six months. There being nothing of importance before Council I adjourned it till October 22, with their unanimous concurrence. This, in the face of Mizzi's declaration at last sitting that no further votes would be granted, shows that want of popular support has caused collapse.

No. 36.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN to GOVERNOR SIR F. W. GRENFELL.

[*Answered by No.* 43.]

SIR, Downing Street, May 26, 1902.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 9th of May,* and to inform you that I approve of your charging the Warrants of Advance, whose issue you report in that despatch, to the sum of £9,000 provided by Clause 1 of the Malta Revenue and General Purposes Order in Council, 1901.

2. I request that I may be informed what portion of this sum of £9,000 has already been expended.

I have, &c.,
J. CHAMBERLAIN.

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* No. 34.

No. 37.

GOVERNOR SIR F. W. GRENFELL to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(Received May 27, 1902.).

SIR, The Palace, Valletta, May 23, 1902.

I HAVE the honour to submit, for your information, copies of a Report by the Inspector of Elementary Schools, in which he forwards returns showing :—

(*a.*) The number of parents or guardians who up to the 14th of May, 1902, had chosen English or Italian as the secondary language of instruction for children attending the 3rd Standard ;

(*b.*) The number of parents or guardians who up to the 14th of May, 1902, had chosen English or Italian as the language of colloquial instruction for children in the two lowest Standards ;

(*c.*) The number of parents or guardians who up to the 14th of May, 1902, had chosen English or Italian only, or both, as the language of examination in the fifth, sixth, and seventh Standards, in terms of the Government Notice of which a copy is enclosed.

2. These results are particularly significant and encouraging in cases where the choice had to be made for boys, and you will observe with satisfaction that 94·3 per cent. have chosen English as the language of colloquial instruction in the lower Standards ; 89·6 per cent. have chosen the same language as the secondary language of instruction in the third Standard ; and that, in the fifth and higher Standards, where they had the option of selecting both English and Italian, 51·1 per cent. have chosen English only.

I have, &c.,
F. GRENFELL,
Governor.

Enclosure 1 in No. 37.

SIR, Elementary Schools Office, Valletta, May 14, 1902.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith, three Returns, brought up to date, relative to the choice of Language in the Government Elementary Schools during the current scholastic year.

2. The general average percentages, as may be seen from the Returns, are as follows :—

I.	For colloquial instruction in the lower Standards for English	88.3
II.	As Secondary Language of Instruction in the III Standard, for English	84.5
III.	Choice of the Language of Examination in the V and higher Standards, where both English and Italian are compulsory :	
	For English only	32.5
	For English and Italian	67.0
	For Italian only	0.5

3. The above Returns are general, and include the choice made for both boys and girls. If, however, the choice made for boys be only taken into account, the general percentage will be as follows :—

I.	For colloquial instruction in the lower Standards, for English	94.3
II.	As Secondary Language of Instruction in the III. Standard, for English	89.6

III. Choice of the Language of Examination in the V and higher Standards :—

For English only	51.1
For English and Italian	48.2
For Italian only	0.7

It is to be noted, however, that in some of the Girls' Schools the percentage for English is 100 per cent.

4. In the 1st Class Schools, viz., in those of the towns and more populous centres as Valletta, Cospicua, Vittoriosa, Senglea, Sliema, Hamrun and Notabile, it is significant that the average percentage for boys only are as follows :—

I. For colloquial instruction in the lower Standards for English 96.0

II. As Secondary Language of Instruction, in the III Standard, for English 63.1

III. Choice of the Language of Examination in the V and higher Standards :—

For English only	52.1
For English and Italian	47.5
For Italian only	0.4

I have, &c.,
E. MAGRO,
Inspector of Elementary Schools.

The Honourable
The Chief Secretary to Government.

RETURN showing the number of Parents or Guardians who up to date have chosen English or Italian as the Language of Colloquial Instruction for their Children on their being admitted to the two lower Standards of the Government Elementary Schools.

School.	For Colloquial English.				For Colloquial Italian.			
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	%	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	%
Malta :—								
Valletta	207	10	217	96.0	5	4	9	4.0
Strada Zecca	No Returns yet available.				No Returns yet available.			
Cospicua								
Senglea	50	45	95	88.0	—	13	13	12·0
Vittoriosa	No Returns yet available.				No Returns yet available.			
Sliema								
Notabile								
Hamrun	227	143	370	92.0	15	17	32	8.0
Birchircara	No Returns yet available.				No Returns yet available.			
Zeitun...								
Floriana								
Misida	66	—	66	90.4	7	—	7	9.6

School.	For Colloquial English.				For Colloquial Italian.			
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	%	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	%
Lia	No Returns yet available.				No returns yet available.			
Zabbar								
Tarxien								
Luca	32	14	46	95.8	—	2	2	4.2
Musta	9	71	80	67.8	6	32	38	33.2
Curmi	No Returns yet available.				No Returns yet available.			
Naxaro								
Zurrico	14	5	19	59.4	3	10	13	40.6
Siggieui	26	21	47	81.0	2	9	11	19.0
Crendi	No Returns yet available.				No Returns yet available.			
Micabiba								
Axiack	4	2	6	100.0	—	—	—	—
Gudia	5	—	5	83.3	1	—	1	16.7
Gargur	No Returns yet available.				No Returns yet available.			
Melleha								
Chircop								
Dingli								
Zebbug								
Gozo :—								
Nadur	No Returns yet available.				No Returns yet available.			
Zebbug								
Kala								
Ghainsielem								
Xaghra								
Xewchija								
Sannat								
Garbo								
Victoria								
Recapitulation.								
Malta Schools	640	311	951	88.3	39	87	126	11.7
Gozo Schools	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Grand Total ...	640	311	951	88.3	39	87	126	11.7

E. MAGRO,
Inspector of Elementary Schools.

Elementary Schools Office,
Valletta, 14th May, 1902.

RETURN showing the number of Parents or Guardians who up to date have chosen English only, English and Italian, or Italian only as the Language of Examination in the V, VI, and VII Standards, in the Government Elementary Schools, in terms of Government Notice, No. 13, of 21. 1. 902.

School.	Date of Examination.	English only.		English and Italian.		Italian only.		Total.			Percentage.		
		Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	English only.	English and Italian.	Italian only.	English only.	English and Italian.	Italian only.
Lia	4th February.	28	5	3	2	2	1	33	5	3	80.5	12.2	7.3
Gargur ...	7th „	3	—	—	1	—	—	3	1	—	75.0	25.0	—
Gudia ...	14th „	*	*	*	*	*	*	—	—	—	—	—	—
Siggieui ...	18th „	12	4	1	—	—	—	16	1	—	94.1	5.9	—
Asciak ...	20th „	*	*	*	*	*	*	—	—	—	—	—	—
Musta ...	24th „	6	—	9	15	—	—	6	24	—	20.0	80.0	—
Micabiba ...	27th „	—	—	6	5	—	—	—	11	—	—	100.0	—
Crendi ...	28th „	—	1	5	—	—	—	1	5	—	16.7	83.3	—
Misida ...	4th March	14	—	8	3	—	—	14	11	—	56.0	44.0	—
Chircop ...	7th „	*	—	*	2	*	—	—	2	—	—	100.0	—
Naxaro ...	10th „	6	—	—	12	—	—	6	12	—	33.3	66.7	—
Curmi ...	12th „	—	—	11	9	—	—	—	20	—	—	100.0	—
Luca	17th „	4	—	21	9	—	—	4	30	—	11.8	88.2	—
Hamrun ...	20th „	18	1	8	27	—	—	19	35	—	35.2	64.8	—
Dingli ...	4th April...	*	*	*	*	*	*	—	—	—	—	—	—
Valletta ...	7th „ ...	33	—	63	49	1	—	33	112	1	22.6	76.7	0.7
Strada Zecca...	14th „ ...	—	4	—	21	—	—	4	21	—	16.0	84.0	—
Zurrico ...	17th „ ...	1	—	—	7	—	—	1	7	—	12.5	87.5	—
Senglea ...	21st „ ...	17	1	2	33	—	—	18	35	—	34.0	66.0	—
Tarxen ...	28th „	3	4	10	17	—	—	7	27	—	20.6	79.4	—
Notabile ...	5th May ...	8	4	9	16	—	—	12	25	—	32.4	67.6	—
Cospicua ...	12th „ ...	9	—	12	49	—	—	9	61	—	12.9	87.1	—
Sliema ...	19th „ ...	22	—	6	43	—	—	22	49	—	31.0	69.0	—
Zabbar ...	26th „ ...	4	12	7	—	—	—	16	7	—	69.6	30.4	—
Vittoriosa ...	4th June...	30	18	—	18	—	—	48	18	—	72.7	27.3	—
Zeitun ...	9th „ ...	—	—	25	17	—	—	—	42	—	—	100.0	—
Totals		218	54	206	355	3	1	272	561	4	32.5	67.0	0.5

* No selection could be made; there were no children in this school, this year, in the V, VI, and VII Standards for examination.

E. MAGRO,
Inspector of Elementary Schools.

Elementary Schools Office,
Valletta, 14th May, 1902.

RETURN showing the Number of Parents or Guardians who up to date have chosen English or Italian as the Secondary Language of Instruction for their children who are attending the III. Standard of the Government Elementary Schools, after the examination in 1902.

Schools.	Date of Examination.	English.				Italian.			
		Boys.	Girls.	Total.	%	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	%
Lia	4th February ...	38	41	79	83·2	1	15	16	16·8
Gargur	7th „ ...	*	*	—	—	*	*	—	—
Gudia	14th „ ...	*	8	8	100·0	*	—	—	—
Siggieui	18th „ ...	13	13	26	76·5	—	8	8	23·5
Asciak	20th „ ...	6	8	14	82·4	1	2	3	17·6
Musta	24th „ ...	31	27	58	86·6	4	5	9	13·4
Micabiba	27th „ ...	12	5	17	89·5	2	—	2	10·5
Crendi	28th „ ...	*	9	9	100·0	*	—	—	—
Misida	4th March ...	28	48	76	96·2	1	2	3	3·8
Chircop	7th „ ...	*	*	—	—	*	*	—	—
Naxaro	10th „ ...	14	4	18	43·9	9	14	23	56·1
Curmi	12th „ ...	32	23	55	72·4	9	12	21	27·6
Luca	17th „ ...	22	12	34	97·1	1	—	1	2·9
Hamrun	20th „ ...	37	41	78	84·8	3	11	14	15·2
Dingli	4th April ...	7	—	7	46·7	2	6	8	53·3
Valletta	7th „ ...	144	55	199	91·3	14	5	19	8·7
Strada Zecca	14th „ ...	—	31	31	73·8	—	11	11	26·2
Zurrico	17th „ ...	6	5	11	55·0	5	4	9	45·0
Senglea	21st „ ...	47	44	91	91·0	—	9	9	9·0
Tarxen	28th „ ...	42	13	55	75·3	7	11	18	24·7
Cospicua	12th May ...	37	48	85	90·4	3	6	9	9·6
Notabile	15th „ ...	33	29	62	95·4	2	1	2	4·6
Totals	... ...	549	464	1,013	84·5	64	122	186	15·5

* No selection made; no III. Standard was formed in this school, this year, after the Annual Examination.

E. MAGRO,
Inspector of Elementary Schools.

Elementary Schools Office,
Valletta, 14th May, 1902.

Enclosure 2 in No. 37.

(No. 13.)

GOVERNMENT NOTICE.

His Excellency the Governor, by virtue of the power vested in him by Clause 4 of the Order in Council of the 26th September, 1901, whereby no student will be disqualified from obtaining scholastic preferment if he satisfies the examiners in either

English or Italian ; has been pleased to direct that in the 5th, 6th, and 7th Standards of the Elementary Schools, the passing of examinations in both English and Italian shall not be obligatory ; and that parents and guardians of any students in such schools shall have the option of determining whether the students shall be examined in English or Italian, or in both English and Italian.

Palace, Valletta, January 21, 1902.

By command,
G. STRICKLAND,
Chief Secretary to Government.

No. 38.

GOVERNOR SIR F. W. GRENFELL to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(Received May 27, 1902.)

(Extract.)

The Palace, Valletta, May 23, 1902.

I have the honour to forward, for your information, a copy of a letter* from the Inspector of Elementary Schools, enclosing three returns,* relative to the choice in the Government Educational Establishments, of English and Italian respectively, as languages of instruction and examination, during the current year.

The returns show unmistakably that the English language will be the language of Education of the rising generation, by the operation of the free choice of the parents themselves, who are the best and only legitimate judges of the requirements of their children.

The progress so far made in English, under the present system of instruction, has been very remarkable, not only in the cities and populous centres, where the masses come more in contact with Englishmen, but also in remote villages.

A feature of this question, of growing importance, is, that urgent appeals are made on behalf of some of the children not to be compelled to learn Italian in any case.

The Order in Council of 1901 granted emancipation from compulsory examination in Italian, but did not otherwise alter the curriculum, which provides that Italian shall be taught above Standard IV.

I am considering whether it can continue to be possible, or advisable, to compel boys to attend the Italian classes in a perfunctory way, when they cannot be subjected to examinations, and their attendance or success in the Italian classes leads to no practical results. The law, in the most solemn form, by the Order in Council of the 26th September, 1901, Clause IV., has emancipated them from being disqualified for promotion by want of knowledge of Italian.

No. 39.

GOVERNOR SIR F. W. GRENFELL to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(Received June 4, 1902.)

[*Answered by No.* 42.]

SIR, The Palace, Valletta, May 29, 1902.

I HAVE the honour to report that Dr. Mizzi, on the 25th ultimo, gave notice that he would propose the discussion in Committee of the Ordinance "For the better control of the University of Studies, of the Lyceum and of other educational establishments," the second reading of which had been carried on the 22nd January last, by the Elected Members present.

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* See enclosure in No. 37.

2. The Ordinance, copies of which are enclosed*, was discussed in Committee on the 21st instant, and read the third time and passed by the Elected Majority on the 23rd instant.

3. With the exception of certain verbal and unimportant amendments which were agreed to in the Committee stage, the Ordinance, as reproposed and passed, is identical with the former Ordinances which were not assented to; and I do not propose to give my assent thereto on this occasion.

I have, &c.,
F. GRENFELL,
Governor.

No. 40.

GOVERNOR SIR F. W. GRENFELL to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(Received June 6, 1902.)

(Extract.)

The Palace, Valletta, May 31, 1902.

With reference to my telegram of the 23rd instant,† reporting that the Elected Members had passed the Education votes for six months, and that I had adjourned the Council until the 22nd of October, I have the honour to report that contrary to expectations and to the most explicit declarations made by Dr. Mizzi at previous meetings, and by other Elected Members, as appears from the enclosed extracts from the debates, the leader of the Elected Bench, at the sitting of the Council held on the 23rd instant, moved the reduction of the Education votes for the remaining ten months of the current financial year, so as to grant supplies for the six months from June to November.

In order to justify his action in the eyes of his colleagues, some of whom are known to hold extreme views on the language question, Dr. Mizzi made it a point to declare that he did not intend to give up the campaign in favour of the Italian language, but that he wished to await the result of the Education Ordinance which was passed and read the third time on the 23rd instant by the Elected Majority, notwithstanding that the Chief Secretary stated in the Council that the Ordinance would not be assented to.

There are, however, reasons to believe that Dr. Mizzi is awakening to the fact that popular support is failing him in his campaign against the English language, for, although Dr. Mizzi's political adherents screen themselves behind vague declarations that they are not fighting against the English language, but only wish to uphold the Italian language from utter annihilation, what they have been aiming at, throughout, is the abolition of English from the Schools, against the opinions and wishes of the bulk of the population and the unmistakable declarations of the parents or guardians of the rising generation.

Enclosure 1 in No. 40.

TRANSLATION of a Speech by Dr. Bonnici at the Sitting held on the 23rd April.

Dr. BONNICI: In principle I am not contrary to the addition of new Schools for giving instruction to the children of the people. I want, however, that this instruction should be in harmony with the feelings of the people, and so long as the Government continues to persist in its policy not to do justice to the Maltese, not to permit that the children of the people be given that instruction which the people has declared that it wants to give them through its legitimate representatives constitutionally elected, I do not intend to vote for new Schools, and, perhaps, also for the Schools which now exist.

[For Enclosures 2 and 3 *see* (3) and (4) on p. 40.]

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* Not reprinted.

† No. 35.

Enclosure 4 in No. 40.

TRANSLATION of an Extract from Dr. Mizzi's Speech at the Sitting of the Council of Government held on the 23rd May, 1902.

Dr. MIZZI: Only a moment ago, I referred to our prudence, and to the hope that justice will be done to us without a final rupture, which would have serious consequences. And I also hinted at the change in the personnel of the Government, which makes us hope for less wretched days, for a greater share of liberty, and a more generous treatment. This same idea prompts me not to resort to extreme measures to-day as regards these estimates, which are before us. To the statement made by the Chief Secretary at the last sitting, that is to say, to the intimation that the Government does not intend to permit the language question to be re-opened, we reply by the intimation that we will not, on our part, permit the question to be closed. And in the hope that the Chief Secretary, in saying so, only expressed the ideas which he attempted to impose on this population for 10 years, and, perhaps, more, we trust that his ideas will leave the Island with him, and we will no longer be faced by that stubbornness with which we have been treated so far; on the other hand, once that there is going to be a change of the personnel, I think we would be failing in our duty, although we have shown enough patience, if we were not to give to the new personnel an opportunity of showing its political feelings as regards the treatment of the Maltese population. We have, indeed, suffered more than enough. But it is our duty to suffer a little more, it is a thing which I do not do with pleasure, but I do not wish it to be said that we have not appreciated the change in the personnel of the Government, and that we have not given to the newcomers an opportunity of making known their views. This consideration induces me to propose that we should not to-day resort to the extreme measures to which so far the conduct of the Government has driven us. One thing I regret, that as we must let some time pass, on this occasion we have to wait six months * * * * * * *

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Enclosure 5 in No. 40.

TRANSLATION of an Extract from Dr. Mizzi's Speech at the Sitting of the Council of Government held on the 23rd May, 1902.

Dr. MIZZI: * * * * * * * *

I declare, however, and I hope that my colleagues will support me, that in making this reduction we do not intend to reject from to-day the expenditure for the months of December, January, February, and March. As regards this point we will settle it at the proper time, hoping that the Government, as it has done in the past, and as, we trust, it will do again, will repropose the vote for these four months. For the present my proposal cannot take any other form, we will leave it to the Government to repropose the vote for the other months.

No. 41.

GOVERNOR SIR F. W. GRENFELL to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(Received June 10, 1902.)

SIR, The Palace, Valletta, June 6, 1902.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 23rd of May,* I have the honour to enclose, for your information, further Returns prepared by the Inspector of Elementary Schools,

* No. 37.

and brought up to the 31st of May, 1902, relative to the choice of the language of instruction or examination in the Government Elementary Schools.

2. These Returns show :—

(A) The number of parents or guardians who have chosen English or Italian as the language of Colloquial Instruction for children on admission into the two lowest Standards ;

(B) The number of parents or guardians who have chosen English or Italian, as the Secondary language of Instruction, for children attending the Third Standard ;

(C) The number of parents or guardians who have chosen English or Italian, or both, as the language of Examination for children in the Fifth, Sixth, and Seventh Standards, in terms of Government Notice, No. 13, of the 21st of January, 1902 (of which a copy is enclosed).*

3. It is to be observed that in the case where the choice lay between English and Italian, parents and guardians have, by an overwhelming majority, selected English ; and that, even in the Fifth, Sixth, and Seventh Standards, where it was open to them to choose English or Italian only, or both, as the language of examination, 31.7 per cent. elected for English, and only 0·5 per cent. elected for Italian.

4. I consider these results to be most gratifying as showing the soundness of the contention that, when the most absolute freedom of choice was offered, the great majority of the parents and guardians gave the preference to the language of the Empire.

I have, &c.,
F. GRENFELL,
Governor.

Enclosure 1 in No. 41.

RETURN showing the number of Parents or Guardians who up to date have chosen English or Italian as the language of Colloquial Instruction for their Children on their being admitted to the two lower Standards of the Government Elementary Schools.

School.	For Colloquial English.				For Colloquial Italian.			
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent.
Malta :—								
Valletta	245	220	465	94·7	9	17	26	5·3
Sda Zecca	—	107	107	93·0	—	8	8	7·0
Cospicua	215	—	215	96·0	9	—	9	4·0
Senglea	67	45	112	88·9	1	13	14	11·1
Vittoriosa ..	No Returns yet available.				No Returns yet available.			
Sliema								
Notabile	139	193	332	97·4	4	5	9	2·6
Hamrun	227	143	370	92·0	15	17	32	8·0
Birchircara	No Returns yet available.				No Returns yet available.			
Zeitun								
Floriana								
Misida	66	—	66	90·4	7	—	7	9·6

* *See* Enclosure 2 in No. 37.

School.	For Colloquial English.				For Colloquial Italian.			
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent.
Lia	108	—	108	98·2	2	—	2	1·8
Zabbar	No Returns yet available.				No Returns yet available.			
Tarxen	64	146	210	80·8	15	35	50	19·2
Luca	32	14	46	95·8	—	2	2	4·2
Musta	9	152	161	60·5	6	99	105	49·5
Curmi	No Returns yet available.				No Returns yet available.			
Naxaro								
Zurrico	43	5	48	57·8	25	10	35	42·2
Siggieui	29	21	50	69·4	13	9	22	30·6
Crendi	No Returns yet available.				No Returns yet available.			
Micabiba								
Zebbug								
Gargur								
Chircop								
Asciak	4	2	6	100·0	—	—	—	—
Gudia	5	—	5	83·3	1	—	1	16·7
Melleha	6	—	6	100·0	—	—	—	—
Dingli	11	21	32	54·2	11	16	27	45·8
Gozo :—								
Nadur	No Returns yet available.				No Returns yet available.			
Zebbug								
Kala								
Ghainsielem								
Xaghra								
Xeuchia								
Sannat								
Garbo								
Victoria								
Recapitulation :—								
Malta Schools	1,270	1,067	2,339	87·0	118	231	349	13·0
Gozo	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Grand Total ...	1,270	1,067	2,339	87·0	118	231	349	13·0

E. MAGRO,
Inspector of Elementary Schools.

Elementary Schools Office,
Valletta, 31st May, 1902.

Enclosure 2 in No. 41.

RETURN shewing the number of Parents or Guardians who up to date have chosen English or Italian as the Secondary Language of Instruction for their children who are attending the III. Standard of the Government Elementary Schools, after the examination in 1902.

Schools.	Date of Examination.	English.				Italian.			
		Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent.
Lia	4th February ...	39	41	80	83·3	1	15	16	16.7
Gargur	7th „ ...	*	*	—	—	*	*	—	—
Gudia	14th „ ...	*	8	8	100.0	*	—	—	—
Siggieui	18th „ ...	13	13	26	76.5	—	8	8	23.5
Asciak	20th „ ...	6	8	14	82.4	1	2	3	17.6
Musta	24th „ ...	31	27	58	86.6	4	5	9	13.4
Micabiba	27th „ ...	12	5	17	89.5	2	—	2	10.5
Crendi	28th „ ...	*	9	9	100.0	*	—	—	—
Misida	4th March ...	28	48	76	96.2	1	2	3	3.8
Chircop	7th „ ...	*	*	—	—	*	*	—	—
Naxaro	10th „ ...	14	4	18	43.9	9	14	23	56.1
Curmi	12th „ ...	32	23	55	72.4	9	12	21	27.6
Luca	17th „ ...	22	12	34	97.1	1	—	1	2.9
Hamrun	20th „ ...	37	41	78	84.8	3	11	14	15.2
Dingli	4th April ...	7	—	7	46.7	2	6	8	53.3
Valletta	7th „ ...	144	55	199	91.3	14	5	19	8.7
Str. Zecca	14th „ ...	—	31	31	73.8	—	11	11	26.2
Zurrico	17th „ ...	6	5	11	55.0	5	4	9	45.0
Senglea	21st „ ...	47	44	91	91.0	—	9	9	9.0
Tarxen	28th „ ...	43	13	56	75.7	7	11	18	24.3
Notabile	5th May ...	36	30	66	95.7	2	1	3	4.3
Cospicua	12th „ ...	81	50	131	88.5	7	10	17	11.5
Sliema	19th „ ...	21	45	66	94.3	3	1	4	5.7
Zabbar	26th „ ...	26	24	50	100.0	—	—	—	—
Totals		645	536	1,181	85.6	71	127	198	14.4

* No selection made; no III. Standard was formed in this School this year after the Annual Examination.

E. MAGRO,
Inspector of Elementary Schools.

Elementary Schools Office,
Malta, 31st May, 1902.

Enclosure 3 in No. 41.

RETURN showing the number of Parents or Guardians who up to date have chosen English only, English and Italian, or Italian only as the Language of Examination for their Children in the V., VI., and VII. Standards, in the Government Elementary Schools, in terms of Government Notice, No. 13, of 21st January, 1902.

School.	Date of Examination.	English only.		English and Italian.		Italian only.		Total.			Percentage.		
		s.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	English only.	English and Italian.	Italian only.	English only.	English and Italian.	Italian only.
Lia	4th Feb.	28	5	3	2	2	1	33	5	3	80.5	12.2	7.3
Gargur ...	7th „	3	—	—	1	—	—	3	1	—	75.0	25.0	—
Gudia ...	14th „	*	*	*	*	*	*	—	—	—	—	—	—
Siggieui ...	18th „	12	4	1	—	—	—	16	1	—	94.1	5.9	—
Asciak ...	20th „	*	*	*	*	*	*	—	—	—	—	—	—
Musta ...	24th „	6	—	9	15	—	—	6	24	—	20.0	80.0	—
Micabiba ...	27th „	—	—	6	5	—	—	—	11	—	—	100.0	—
Crendi ...	28th „	—	1	5	—	—	—	1	5	—	16.7	83.3	—
Misida ...	4th March	14	—	8	3	—	—	14	11	—	56.0	44.0	—
Chircop ...	7th „	*	—	*	2	*	—	—	2	—	—	100.0	—
Naxaro ...	10th „	6	—	—	12	—	—	6	12	—	33.3	66.7	—
Curmi ...	12th „	—	—	11	9	—	—	—	20	—	—	100.0	—
Luca	17th „	4	—	21	9	—	—	4	30	—	11.8	88.2	—
Hamrun ...	20th „	18	1	8	27	—	—	19	35	—	35.2	64.8	—
Dingli ...	4th April	*	*	*	*	*	*	—	—	—	—	—	—
Valletta ...	7th „	33	—	63	49	1	—	33	112	1	22.6	76.7	0·7
Str. Zecca ...	14th „	—	4	—	21	—	—	4	21	—	16.0	84.0	—
Zurrico ...	17th „	1	—	—	7	—	—	1	7	—	12.5	87.5	—
Senglea ...	21th „	17	1	2	33	—	—	18	35	—	34.0	66.0	—
Tarxen ...	28th „	3	4	10	17	—	—	7	27	—	20.6	79.4	—
Notabile ...	5th May	8	4	9	16	—	—	12	25	—	32·4	67.6	—
Cospicua ...	12th „	9	—	12	49	—	—	9	61	—	12.9	87.1	—
Sliema ...	19th „	22	—	6	43	—	—	22	49	—	31.0	69.0	—
Zabbar ...	26th „	4	12	7	—	—	—	16	7	—	69.6	30.4	—
Vittoriosa ...	4th June	30	18	—	18	—	—	48	18	—	72.7	27.3	—
Zeitun ...	9th „	—	—	25	17	—	—	—	42	—	—	100.0	—
Birchircara ...	? „	7	—	10	24	—	—	7	34	—	17.1	82.9	—
Totals ...	... ...	225	54	217	379	3	1	279	596	4	31.7	67.8	0.5

* No selection could be made; there were no children in this school, this year, in the V., VI., and VII. Standards for Examination.

E. MAGRO,
Inspector of Elementary Schools,

Elementary Schools Office,
Valletta, 31st May, 1902.

No. 42.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN to ACTING GOVERNOR LANE.

SIR, Downing Street, June 18, 1902.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Sir F. Grenfell's despatch of the 29th of May,* transmitting copies of an Education Ordinance passed by the Elected Members on the 23rd of May, and to inform you that I approve of your declaring that you refuse assent to this Ordinance.

I have, &c.,
J. CHAMBERLAIN.

No. 43.

ACTING GOVERNOR LANE to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(Received June 23, 1902.)

SIR, The Palace, Valletta, June 19, 1902.

WITH reference to the second paragraph of your despatch of the 26th of May,† I have the honour to submit, for your information, a statement showing the amounts expended up to the 13th of June and charged to the sum of £9,000 provided under Clause 1 of the "Malta Revenue and General Purposes Order in Council, 1901."

2. I also beg to enclose a statement of other expenditure which it is proposed to charge to the same sum of £9,000, and in regard to which your authority has been solicited in the despatches noted against each item.

I have, &c.,
R. B. LANE, M.G.
Deputy Governor.

Enclosure 1 in No. 43.

STATEMENT shewing the amounts authorized to be expended, during the year 1902–03, out of the £9,000 provided by Clause 1 of the "Malta Revenue and General Purposes Order in Council, 1901," and the amounts actually expended from 1st April to 13th June, 1902.

Particulars of Work or Service.	No. and Date of Warrants.	Amounts Authorized.	Amounts Expended
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To re-adjust the salary of the Veterinary Surgeon Superintendent of the Slaughter House.	13 of 7th May, 1902 ...	100 0 0	16 13 4
To continue the service of a Branch Post Office at Melleha.	13 of 7th May, 1902 ...	100 0 0	0 0 0
To carry out certain works and other services in the house lately occupied by the Eastern Telegraph Company in Strada Marsamuscetto, to be converted into an Elementary School and a Police Station.	13 of 7th May, 1902 ...	350 0 0	52 8 9
Personal addition to the salary of the Senior Medical Officer of Health.	14 of 5th June, 1902 ...	70 0 0	0 0 0
	Totals	620 0 0	69 2 1

JN. HUBER,
Accountant.

Treasury, 14th June, 1902.
E. W. TRAPANI,
Acting Receiver General.

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* No. 39.

† No. 36.

Enclosure 2 in No. 43.

AMOUNTS chargeable against £9,000 under Clause 1 of Order in Council of 26th September, 1901. (Financial year 1902-3).

Service.	Authority of Secretary of State requested by :—	Authorized by Secretary of State on :—
£480 for concreting pavement of Lazaretto Cattle Yard	Dft. 205— 31st December, 1901	* —
£350 for converting a Government building into a new School and Police station.		
£100 to make up salary of the Veterinary Surgeon to £350 a year.	Dft. 109— 9th May, 1902.	26th May, 1902
£100 for a Branch Post Office at Mellieha . .		
£70 for increase of salary to Dr. Caruana Scicluna ...	Dft. 114— 12th May, 1902.	27th May, 1902
£33 6*s.* 8*d.* for Lecturer on Political Economy... ...	Dft. 133— 28th May, 1902.	* —
£500 for new road outside Porta Reale	Dft. 135— 30th May, 1902.	* —
£400 for benches in Government Elementary Schools...	Dft. 136— 30th May, 1902.	* —
£60 Remuneration to visitor of Notarial Acts in Malta and Gozo.	Dft. 17th May, 1902.	3rd June, 1902.

* Reply of Secretary of State still awaited.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Amount authorised by Secretary of State ...	680	0	0
Amount in regard to which the authority of the Secretary of State is still awaited	1,413	6	8

No. 44.

ACTING GOVERNOR O'CALLAGHAN to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(Received July 31, 1902.)

SIR, The Palace, Valletta, July 26, 1902.

WITH reference to His Excellency the Governor's despatches of the 23rd of May and 6th ultimo,* I have the honour to submit, for your information, further Returns relative to the choice of the language of instruction and examination made by parents or guardians, on behalf of children attending the Government Elementary Schools, during the current scholastic year, at and since the annual examinations which have just been held in Malta.

2. In explanation of these Returns, I beg to enclose a copy of an interesting report from Professor Magro.

I have, &c.,

D. O'CALLAGHAN,
Major-General,
Administering the Government.

* Nos. 37 and 41.

Enclosure 1 in No. 44.

A.

RETURN showing the number of Parents or Guardians who up to date have chosen English or Italian as the Language of Colloquial Instruction for their children on their being admitted to the two lower Standards of the Government Elementary Schools.

SCHOOL.	For Colloquial English.				For Colloquial Italian.			
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent
MALTA :—								
Valletta	252	226	478	94·8	9	17	26	5·2
Sda. Zecca	—	104	104	92·8	—	8	8	7·2
Cospicua	281	133	414	88·0	12	44	56	12·0
Senglea	117	50	167	92·7	0	13	13	7·3
Vittoriosa	93	276	369	98·6	1	4	5	1·4
Sliema	202	222	424	98·6	1	5	6	1·4
Notabile	143	216	359	98·0	4	3	7	2·0
Hamrun	296	279	575	91·4	16	38	54	8·6
Birchircara	No returns yet available.							
Zeitun								
Floriana								
Misida	90	10	100	92·7	8	0	8	7·3
Lia	112	—	112	98·2	2	—	2	1·8
Zabbar	123	168	291	99·6	1	0	1	0·4
Tarxen	64	150	214	80·4	16	36	52	9·6
Luca...	85	67	152	94·4	4	5	9	5·6
Musta	75	155	230	64·9	25	99	124	35·1
Curmi	2	41	43	76·7	4	9	13	23·3
Naxaro	31	25	56	37·0	27	68	95	63·0
Zurrico	44	29	73	47·4	21	60	81	52·6
Zebbug	71	93	164	61·4	27	76	103	38·6
Siggieui	55	38	93	61·1	15	44	59	38·9
Crendi	30	—	30	90·9	3	—	3	9·1
Micabiba	34	—	34	87·1	5	—	5	12·9
Asciak	42	28	70	89·7	4	4	8	10·3
Gudia	36	29	65	94·2	4	0	4	5·8
Gargur	11	3	14	77·7	2	2	4	12·3
Melleha	14	7	21	75·0	0	7	7	25·0
Chircop	8	1	9	90·0	1	0	1	10·0
Dingli	11	22	33	55·0	11	16	27	45·0

School.	For Colloquial English.				For Colloquial Italian.			
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent
Gozo :—								
Nadur	No returns yet available.							
Zebbug								
Kala								
Ghainsielem								
Xaghra								
Xeuchia								
Sannat								
Garbo								
Victoria								
RECAPITULATION :—								
Malta Schools	2,322	2,372	4,694	85·7	223	558	781	14·3
Gozo „	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
GRAND TOTAL	2,322	2,372	4,694	85·7	223	558	781	14·3

E. MAGRO,
Inspector of Elementary Schools.

Elementary Schools Office, Valletta,
14th July, 1902.

Enclosure 2 in No. 44.

B.

RETURN showing the number of Parents or Guardians who up to date have chosen English or Italian as the Secondary Language of Instruction for their Children who are attending the III. Standard of the Government Elementary Schools in Malta after the Examinations in 1902.

Schools.	Date of Examination.	English.				Italian.			
		Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent
Lia	4 February ...	39	41	80	83·3	1	15	16	16·7
Gargur	7 February ...	*							
Gudia	14 February ...	*	8	8	100 0	*	0	0	0·0

* No selection made ; no III. Standard was formed in this school, this year, after the Annual Examination.

Schools.	Date of Examination.	English.				Italian.			
		Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent
Siggieui	18 February ...	13	13	26	76·5	0	8	8	23·5
Asciak	20 February ...	6	8	14	82·4	1	2	3	17·6
Musta	24 February ...	31	27	58	86·6	4	5	9	13·4
Micabiba	27 February ...	12	5	17	89·5	2	0	2	10·5
Crendi	28 February ...	*	9	9	100·0	*	0	0	0·0
Misida	4 March ...	28	48	76	96·2	1	2	3	3·8
Chircop	7 March ...	*							
Naxaro	10 March ...	14	4	18	43·9	9	14	23	56·1
Curmi	12 March ...	32	23	55	72·4	9	12	21	26·7
Luca	17 March ...	22	12	34	97·1	1	0	1	2·9
Hamrun	20 March ...	37	41	78	84·8	3	11	14	15·2
Dingli	4 April ...	7	0	7	46·7	2	6	8	53·3
Valletta	7 April ...	144	55	199	91·3	14	5	19	8·7
Str. Zecca	14 April ...	—	31	31	73·8	—	11	11	26·2
Zurrico	17 April ...	11	5	16	64·0	5	4	9	36·0
Senglea	21 April ...	47	44	91	9·0	0	9	9	9·0
Tarxen	28 April ...	43	15	58	76·3	7	11	18	23·7
Notabile	5 May ...	36	30	66	95·7	2	1	3	4·3
Cospicua	12 May ...	82	50	132	89·2	6	10	16	10·8
Sliema	19 May ...	58	56	114	98·3	0	2	2	1·7
Zabbar	26 May ...	28	30	58	100·0	0	0	0	0·0
Vittoriosa	5 June ...	64	53	117	96·7	2	2	4	3·3
Zeitun	9 June ...	52	28	80	78·4	1	21	22	21·6
Zebbug	12 June ...	14	20	34	54·8	11	17	28	45·2
Melleha	16 June ...	6	12	18	94·7	0	1	1	5·3
Birchircara	17 June ...	16	—	16	94·1	1	—	1	5·9
Floriana	20 June ...	14	38	52	100·0	0	0	0	0·0
Totals	... ...	856	706	1,562	86·2	82	169	251	13·8

* No selection made; no III. Standard was formed in this school, this year, after the Annual Examination.

E. Magro,
Inspector of Elementary Schools.

Elementary Schools Office, Valletta,
14th July, 1902.

Enclosure 3 in No. 44.

C.

RETURN showing the number of Parents or Guardians who up to date have chosen English only, English and Italian, or Italian only as the language of Examination in the V., VI., and VII. Standards in the Government Elementary Schools in terms of Government Notice No 13 of 21/1/1902.

SCHOOL.	Date of Examination.	English.		English and Italian.		Italian.		TOTAL.			PERCENTAGES.		
		Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	English only.	English and Italian.	Italian only.	English only.	English and Italian.	Italian only.
Lia	4 February	28	5	3	2	2	1	33	5	3	80·5	12·2	7·3
Gargur	7 February	3	0	0	1	0	0	3	1	0	75·0	25·0	0·0
Gudia	14 February	*											
Siggieui	18 February	12	4	1	0	0	0	16	1	0	94·1	5·9	0·0
Asciak	20 February	*											
Musta	24 February	6	0	9	15	0	0	6	24	0	20·0	80·0	0·0
Micabiba	27 February	0	0	6	5	0	0	0	11	0	0·0	100·0	0·0
Crendi	28 February	0	1	5	0	0	0	1	5	0	16·7	83·3	0·0
Misida	4 March	14	0	8	3	0	0	14	11	0	56·0	44·0	0·0
Chircop	7 March	*	0	*	2	*	0	0	2	0	0·0	100·0	0·0
Naxaro	10 March	6	0	0	12	0	0	6	12	0	33·3	67·7	0.0
Curmi	12 March	0	0	11	9	0	0	0	20	0	0·0	100·0	0·0
Luca	17 March	4	0	21	9	0	0	4	30	0	11·8	88·2	0·0
Hamrun	20 March	18	1	8	27	0	0	19	35	0	35·2	64·8	0·0
Dingli	4 April	*											
Valletta	7 April	33	0	63	49	1	0	33	112	1	22·6	76·7	0·7
Str. Zecca ...	14 April	—	4	—	21	—	0	4	21	0	16·0	84·0	0·0
Zurrico	17 April	1	0	0	7	0	0	1	7	0	12·5	87·5	0·0
Senglea	21 April	17	1	2	33	0	0	18	35	0	34·0	66·0	0·0
Tarxen	28 April	3	4	10	17	0	0	7	27	0	20·6	79·4	0·0
Notabile	5 May	8	4	9	16	0	0	12	25	0	32·4	67·6	0·0
Cospicua	12 May	9	0	12	49	0	0	9	61	0	12·9	87·1	0·0
Sliema	19 May	22	0	6	43	0	0	22	49	0	31·0	69·0	0·0
Zabba	26 May	4	12	7	0	0	0	16	7	0	69·6	30·4	0·0
Vittoriosa	4 June	30	18	0	18	0	0	48	18	0	72·7	27·3	0·0
Zeitun	9 June	0	0	26	17	0	0	0	43	0	0·0	100·0	0·0
Zebbug	12 June	5	8	0	0	0	0	13	0	0	100·0	0·0	0·0
Melleha	16 June	0	—	4	—	0	—	0	4	0	0·0	100·0	0·0
Birchircara ...	17 June	7	0	10	24	0	0	7	34	0	17·1	82·9	0·0
Floriana	20 June	8	7	12	17	0	0	15	29	0	34·1	65·9	0·0
TOTALS ...	.. ...	238	69	233	396	3	1	307	629	4	32·7	66·9	0·4

* No selection could be made; there were no children in this school, this year, in the V., VI., VII. Standards for Examination.

Elementary Schools Office, Valletta,
14th July, 1902.

E. MAGRO,
Inspector of Elementary Schools.

Enclosure 4 in No. 44.

SIR, Elementary Schools Office, Valletta, July 18, 1902.

I HAVE the honour to forward, herewith, for the information of His Honour the Deputy Governor, three Returns marked respectively A, B, and C, showing the percentages of the choice of language made by parents or guardians for their children attending the various standards during this scholastic year, at and since the annual examinations, which have just been completed in the Malta Schools.

2. It will be seen that the general percentages for both Boys and Girls are respectively as follows :—

A. Of choice in favour of English as the language of Colloquial Instruction—85·7 per cent.

B. In favour of English as the secondary language of Instruction in the Third Standard—86·2 per cent.

C. In favour of English only as the language of Examination in the Fifth and higher Standards—32·7 per cent.

Percentage { In favour of both English and Italian—66·9.
In favour of Italian only—0·4.

3. Were the above percentages, which are general, calculated with reference to the number of boys only attending the Schools in Malta, they would be much higher, namely :—

For English as the language of Colloquial Instruction—91·2 per cent.

For English as the secondary language of Education—91·2 per cent.

For English only, as the language of Examination—50·2 per cent.

For English and Italian as the language of Examination—4·92 per cent.

For Italian only as the language of Examination—0·6 per cent.

4. It is worthy of consideration that the above percentages, which are for all the Schools in Malta, are very encouraging in themselves, and much higher than those obtained last year. They acquire even greater significance when the fact is considered that in the choice of language the parents or guardians were, as usual, allowed the utmost liberty by this Department. Each choice was made either in writing, or personally, before witnesses, and the documents relating thereto are in my custody, for future reference, if required.

5. Again, these results were obtained in the face of continued partisan agitation against English, as may be more easily seen in the case of returns from isolated centres, where the ill effects of outside pressure, still prevalent, are sensibly felt—especially among the women folk. It is satisfactory to find, however, that in many instances, parents who had, in compliance with partisan influence, declared for Italian, on consulting their own interests, found out their mistake for themselves and spontaneously revoked their former declaration in favour of English.

6. Again, it may further be pointed out that in the town and other first-class Boys Schools the percentages are even higher than any of the above, viz.:—

A. Choice for English as the Colloquial Language of Instruction—96·8 per cent.

B. Choice for English in the Third Standard—95·3 per cent.

C. Choice for English as the Language of Examination—50·9 per cent.

Choice for English and Italian—48·8 per cent.

Choice for Italian—0·3 per cent.

7. It is true that the above returns are not final, and that they will almost certainly be greatly and adversely affected by the returns to be obtained after the annual examinations in Gozo, which are just being held. It would appear, nevertheless, that the present returns offer a sufficient indication of the real wants and wishes of the people, especially in the above larger town-schools in Malta, and moreover

in view of the fact that petitions from such places, in favour of teaching English exclusively are continually being received. Such petitions are as often refused, in compliance with the provisions of the present system of instruction in the Elementary Schools, which make the study of both English and Italian compulsory in the higher standards.

Under these circumstances it appears to be a matter for consideration whether suitable steps should not be taken in the near future to meet these expressions of the working people of Malta, who cannot but realize that without a competent knowledge of English, their children are debarred from occupying lucrative and responsible situations under the Imperial Government.

I have, &c.,
E. MAGRO,
Inspector of Elementary Schools.

The Honourable
The Acting Chief Secretary
to Government.

No. 45.

ACTING-GOVERNOR O'CALLAGHAN to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(Received August 5, 1902.)

(Extract.)

The Palace, Valletta, July 31, 1902.

I HAVE the honour to report that, according to the Syllabus* for the Matriculation Examination for 1902 which was approved by the General Council of the University on the 19th July, 1901, before the publication of His Majesty's Order in Council of the 26th September of that year, translation from English into Italian and from Italian into English formed one of the subjects of examination in each of those languages.

2. At the last Matriculation Examination, a question arose as to whether, in view of the provisions of the Order in Council above referred to, and of the Regulation published by Government Notice No. 293 of the 19th November, 1901, that translation was still to be considered as an obligatory subject.

3. The General Council of the University considered the question at the sitting held on the 23rd June, and passed the Resolution which is set out in the letter from the Acting Rector of the University, of which a copy is enclosed.

Enclosure 2 in No. 45.

GOVERNMENT NOTICE.†

His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to direct it to be notified that, in terms of Clause 4 of the Order in Council of the 26th September, 1901, Candidates for Matriculation, or for Admission to the Lyceum shall, in future, be examined in the English Language or the Italian Language or in both, at the choice of their parents or guardians.

For the purpose of classification, in the case of candidates examined in both languages, marks will be reckoned, in the total, only for the language in which the higher number is awarded.

By command,
G. STRICKLAND,
Chief Secretary to Government.

Palace, Valletta,
November 19, 1901.

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* Not printed here.

† Published also in Italian.

Enclosure 3 in No. 45.

Education Office,
July 12, 1902.

SIR,

I beg to forward the enclosed Resolution, passed by the General Council of the University, by five votes to four, at the sitting held on the 23rd June last :—

"It is the opinion of this Council that marks awarded for translations at the Matriculation Examination are to be reckoned in the aggregate for the purpose of classification."

2. The above resolution was passed mainly in view of the fact that the syllabus under which the present examinations have been conducted, and which was published some time before the Order in Council of the 26th September, 1901, was held to be consistent with the said Order.

3. It appears to me, however, that there is room for considerable doubt whether the conditions for the written examination imposed by Article 199 of the Statute have not been materially altered by the provision of the Order in Council in the case of a candidate presenting himself to the examination with either English or Italian.

4. Again, the view was expressed by all the members present that the Statute might be brought more strictly into accord with the spirit of the Order in Council.

5. It would, therefore, be a matter for consideration whether it would not be advisable for His Honour, the Deputy Governor, to make, in virtue of the powers vested in him by Clause 4 of the said Order, such regulations as may appear necessary to meet the difficulties of the case.

I have, &c.,
E. MAGRO,
Acting Rector.

No. 46.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN to ACTING-GOVERNOR O'CALLAGHAN.

SIR, Downing Street, August 25, 1902.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Lord Grenfell's despatch of the 31st of December, 1901,* and to express my regret that a reply has not been sent to it at an earlier date.

2. I approve of the expenditure under special warrant of the sum of £480 required for concreting the pavement of some of the Lazaretto cattle yards, and of the amount being charged to the sum of £9,000 provided by the Malta Revenue and General Purposes Order in Council, 1901.

I have, &c.,
J. CHAMBERLAIN.

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* Not printed.

No. 47.

ACTING GOVERNOR O'CALLAGHAN to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(Received September 24, 1902.)

SIR, The Palace, Valletta, September 19, 1902.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 26th July,* and to His Excellency the Governor's despatches, of the 23rd of May and 6th of June last,† I have the honour to forward, for your information, further Returns relative to the choice of the language of instruction and examination made by parents and guardians on behalf of children attending the Government Elementary Schools in Malta and Gozo.

2. I also enclose a copy of a report by Professor Magro on the results indicated by the Returns, which I consider very satisfactory.

I have, &c.,
D. O'CALLAGHAN,
Major-General,
Administering the Government.

Enclosure 1 in No. 47.

A.

RETURN showing the number of Parents or Guardians who up to date have chosen English or Italian as the Language of Colloquial Instruction for their children on their being admitted to the two lower standards of the Government Elementary Schools.

School.	For Colloquial English.				For Colloquial Italian.			
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent.
MALTA.								
Valletta	252	226	478	94·8	9	17	26	5·2
Str. Zecca	—	104	104	92·8	—	8	8	7·2
Cospicua	281	133	414	88·0	12	44	56	12·0
Senglea	117	50	167	92·7	0	13	13	7·3
Vittoriosa	93	276	369	98·6	1	4	5	1·4
Sliema	202	222	424	98·6	1	5	6	1·4
Notabile	143	216	359	98·0	4	3	7	2·0
Hamrun	296	279	575	91·4	16	38	54	8·6
Birchircara	87	‡	87	97·8	2	‡	2	2·2
Zeitun	65	‡	65	97·0	2	‡	2	3·0
Floriana	‡							
Misida	90	10	100	92·7	8	0	8	7·3
Lia	112	‡	112	98·2	2	‡	2	1·8
Zabbar	123	168	291	99·6	1	0	1	0·4
Carried forward ...	1,861	1,684	3,545		58	132	190	

* No. 44. † Nos. 37 and 41. ‡ No return yet available.

School.	For Colloquial English.				For Colloquial Italian.			
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent.
MALTA—*cont.*								
Brought forward ...	1,861	1,684	3,545		58	132	190	
Tarxen	64	150	214	80·4	16	36	52	9·6
Luca	85	67	152	94·4	4	5	9	5·6
Musta	77	155	232	65·5	23	99	122	34·5
Curmi	10	41	51	75·0	8	9	17	25·0
Naxaro	31	25	56	37·0	27	68	95	63·0
Zurrico	44	29	73	47·4	21	60	81	52·6
Zebbug	71	93	164	61·4	27	76	103	38·6
Siggieui	55	38	93	61·1	15	44	59	38·9
Crendi	30	*	30	90·9	3	*	3	9·1
Micabiba	34	*	34	87·1	5	*	5	12·9
Asciak	42	28	70	89·7	4	4	8	10·3
Gudia	36	29	65	94·2	4	0	4	5·8
Gargur	22	3	25	89·3	1	2	3	10·7
Melleha	14	7	21	75·0	0	7	7	25·0
Chircop	8	1	9	90·0	1	0	1	10·0
Dingli	11	22	33	55·0	11	16	27	45·0
GOZO.								
Xaghra	10	23	33	43·4	23	30	53	56·6
Kala	28	*	28	50·9	27	*	27	49·1
Nadur	*							
Zebbug								
Ghainsielem								
Xeuchia								
Sannat								
Garbo								
Victoria								
RECAPITULATION.								
Malta Schools	2,495	2,372	4,867	86·1	228	558	786	13·9
Gozo „	38	23	61	43·3	50	30	80	56·7
Grand Total ...	2,533	2,395	4,928	85·1	278	588	866	14·9

* No return yet available.

August 30, 1902.

E. MAGRO,
Inspector of Elementary Schools.

Enclosure 2 in No. 47.

B.

RETURN showing the number of Parents or Guardians who have chosen English or Italian as the Secondary Language of Instruction for their children who are attending the III. Standard of the Government Elementary Schools in Malta and Gozo, after the Examination in 1902.

Schools.	Date of Examination.	English.				Italian.			
		Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent.
MALTA.									
Lia	Feb. 4	40	41	81	83·5	1	15	16	16·5
Gargur	„ 7	*							
Gudia	„ 14	*	8	8	100·0	*	0	0	0·0
Siggieui ...	„ 18	13	13	26	76·5	0	8	8	23·5
Asciak	„ 20	6	8	14	82·4	1	2	3	17·6
Musta	„ 24	31	27	58	86·6	4	5	9	13·4
Micabiba ...	„ 27	12	5	17	89·5	2	0	2	10·5
Crendi	„ 28	*	9	9	100·0	*	0	0	0·0
Misida	Mch. 4	28	48	76	96·2	1	2	3	3·8
Chircop... ...	„ 7	*							
Naxaro	„ 10	14	4	18	43·9	9	14	23	56·1
Curmi	„ 12	32	23	55	72·4	9	12	21	27·6
Luca	„ 17	22	12	34	97·1	1	0	1	2·9
Hamrun ...	„ 20	37	41	78	8·48	3	11	14	15·2
Dingli	Apr. 4	7	0	7	47·6	2	6	8	53·3
Valetta	„ 7	144	55	199	91·3	14	5	19	8·7
Sda. Zecca ...	„ 14	—	31	31	73·8	—	11	11	26·2
Zurrico	„ 17	11	5	16	64·0	5	4	9	36·0
Senglea... ...	„ 21	47	44	91	91·0	0	9	9	9·0
Tarxen	„ 28	43	16	59	76·6	7	11	18	23·4
Notabile ...	May 5	37	30	67	95·7	2	1	3	4·3
Cospicua ...	„ 12	82	53	135	88·8	6	11	17	11·2
Sliema	„ 19	58	56	114	98·3	0	2	2	1·7
Zabbar	„ 26	28	30	58	100·0	0	0	0	0·0
Vittoriosa ...	June 5	65	54	119	97·5	2	1	3	2·5
Zeitun	„ 9	52	29	81	78·6	1	21	22	22·4
Zebbug... ...	„ 12	14	20	34	54·8	11	17	28	45·2
Melleha ...	„ 16	6	12	18	94·7	0	1	1	5·3
Birchircara ...	„ 17	24	—	24	96·0	1	*	1	4·0
Floriana ...	„ 20	30	38	68	100·0	0	0	0	0·0
Carried forward		883	712	1,595		82	169	251	

* No selection could be made, as no Standard III. was formed in this school this year, after the annual examination.

Schools.	Date of Examination.	English.				Italian.			
		Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent.
Brought forward		883	712	1,595		82	169	251	
Gozo.									
Kala	July 4	8	0	8	29·6	12	7	19	70·4
Nadur	„ 7	19	8	27	62·8	12	4	16	37·2
Ghainsielem ...	„ 21	8	10	18	100·0	0	0	0	0·0
Xaghra	„ 22	8	8	16	45·7	14	5	19	54·3
Garbo	„ 24	*	0	0	0·0	*	8	8	100·0
Xewchia ...	„ 25	5	2	7	53·8	0	6	6	46·2
Zebbug... ...	„ 26			No. III. Standard formed.					
Sannat	„ 26	1	*	1	16·7	5	*	5	83·3
Victoria ...	„ 28	22	6	28	43·7	20	16	36	56·3
RECAPITULATION.									
Malta Schools		883	712	1,595	86·4	82	169	251	13·6
Gozo „		71	34	105	49·1	63	46	109	50·9
Malta and Gozo Total...		954	746	1,700	82·5	145	215	360	17·5

* No selection could be made, as no Standard III. was formed in this school this year, after the annual examination.

E. MAGRO,
Inspector of Elementary Schools.

Elementary Schools Office,
30th August, 1902.

Enclosure 3 in No. 47.

C.

RETURN showing the number of Parents or Guardians who have chosen English only, English and Italian, or Italian only as the Language of Examination in the V., VI., and VII. Standards of the Government Elementary Schools in Malta and Gozo during 1902, in terms of Government Notice, No. 13, of January 21, 1902.

School.	Date of Examination.	English.		English and Italian.		Italian.		Total.			Percentages.		
		Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	English only.	English and Italian.	Italian only.	English only.	English and Italian.	Italian only.
MALTA.													
Lia	Feb. 4	28	5	3	2	2	1	33	5	3	80·5	12·2	7·3
Gargur...	„ 7	3	0	0	1	0	0	3	1	0	75·0	25·0	0·0
Gudia	„ 14	*											
Siggieui	„ 18	12	4	1	0	0	0	16	1	0	94·1	5·9	0·0
Asciak	„ 20	*											
Musta	„ 24	6	0	9	15	0	0	6	24	0	20·0	80·0	0·0
Micabiba	„ 27	0	0	6	5	0	0	0	11	0	0·0	100·0	0·0
Carried forward...		49	9	19	23	2	1	58	42	3			

* No selection could be made; there were no children in this school this year in the V., VI., and VII. Standards for examination.

School.	Date of Examination.	English.		English and Italian.		Italian.		Total.			Percentages.		
		Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	English only.	English and Italian.	Italian only.	English only.	English and Italian.	Italian only.
Brought forward...		49	9	19	23	2	1	58	42	3			
Malta—*cont.*													
Crendi	Feb. 28	0	1	5	0	0	0	1	5	0	16·7	83·3	0·0
Misida	Mch. 4	14	0	8	3	0	0	14	11	0	56·0	44·0	0·0
Chircop	„ 7	*	0	*	2	*	0	0	2	0	0·0	100·0	0·0
Naxaro	„ 10	6	0	0	12	0	0	6	12	3	33·3	66·7	0·0
Curmi	„ 12	0	0	11	9	0	0	0	20	0	0·0	100·0	0·0
Luca	„ 17	4	0	21	9	0	0	4	30	0	11·8	88·2	0·0
Hamrun	„ 20	18	1	8	27	0	0	19	35	0	35·2	64·8	0·0
Dingli	Apr. 4	*											
Valletta...	„ 7	33	0	63	49	1	0	33	112	1	22·6	76·7	0·7
Str/Zecca	„ 14	—	4	—	21	—	0	4	21	0	16·0	84·0	0·0
Zurrico	„ 17	1	0	0	7	0	0	1	7	0	12·5	87·5	0·0
Senglea	„ 21	17	1	2	33	0	0	18	35	0	34·0	66·0	0·0
Tarxen	„ 28	3	4	10	17	0	0	7	27	0	20·6	79·4	0·0
Notabile	May 5	8	4	9	16	0	0	12	25	0	32·4	67·6	2·0
Cospicua	„ 12	9	0	12	49	0	0	9	61	0	12·9	87·1	0·0
Sliema	„ 19	22	0	6	43	0	0	22	49	0	31·0	69·0	0·0
Zabbar	„ 26	4	12	7	0	0	0	16	7	0	69·6	30·4	0·0
Vittoriosa	June 4	30	18	0	18	0	0	48	18	0	72·7	27·3	0·0
Zeitun	„ 9	0	0	26	17	0	0	0	43	0	0·0	100·0	0·0
Zebbug	„ 12	5	8	0	0	0	0	13	0	0	100·0	0·0	0·0
Melleha...	„ 16	0	*	4	*	0	*	0	4	0	0·0	100·0	0·0
Birchircara	„ 17	7	0	10	24	0	0	7	34	0	17·1	82·9	0·0
Floriana	„ 20	8	7	12	17	0	0	15	29	0	34·1	65·9	0·0
Gozo.													
Kala	July 4	0	0	15	2	0	0	0	17	0	0·0	100·0	0·0
Nadur	„ 7	0	10	12	2	0	0	10	14	0	41·7	58·3	0·0
Ghaiasielem	„ 21	10	6	1	1	0	0	16	2	0	88·9	11·1	0·0
Xaghra	„ 22	0	0	16	2	0	0	0	18	0	0·0	100·0	0·0
Garbo	„ 24	0	*	7	*	1	*	0	7	1	0·0	87·5	12·5
Xeuchia...	„ 25	0	0	7	4	0	0	0	11	0	0·0	100·0	0·0
Zebbug	„ 26	0	*	4	*	0	*	0	4	0	0·0	100·0	0·0
Sannat	„ 26	*	0	*	1	*	0	0	1	0	0·0	100·0	0·0
Victoria...	„ 28	0	0	28	14	1	0	0	42	1	0·0	97·7	2·3
RECAPITULATION.													
Malta Schools		238	69	233	396	3	1	307	629	1	32·7	66·9	0·4
Gozo „		10	16	90	26	2	0	26	116	2	18·0	80·6	1·4
Total, Malta and Gozo ...		248	85	323	422	5	1	333	745	6	30·7	68·7	0·6

* No selection could be made; there were no children in this school this year in the V., VI., and VII. Standards for examination.

Elementary Schools Office, Valletta,
30th August, 1902.

E. MAGRO,
Inspector of Elementary Schools.

Enclosure 4 in No. 47.

D.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT showing the number of Parents or Guardians who have chosen English or Italian as the Secondary Language of Education for their children attending the III. Standard of the Government Elementary Schools in Malta and Gozo during 1898, 1899, 1900, 1901, and 1902.

	1898.				1899.				1900.				1901.				1902.			
	English.		Italian.		English.		Italian.		English.		Italian.		English.		Italian.		English.		Italian.	
	No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.
Malta	1,250	97·8	38	2·2	1,357	98·6	19	1·4	1,333	99·4	7	0·6	1,612	78·6	439	21·4	1,595	86·4	251	13·6
Gozo	160	84·6	29	15·4	197	92·2	13	7·8	215	95·5	6	4·5	50	34·7	94	65·3	105	49·1	109	50·9
Malta and Gozo ...	1,410	95·4	67	4·6	1,554	97·1	32	2·9	1,548	98·5	13	1·5	1,662	75·7	533	24·3	1,700	82·5	360	17·5

E. MAGRO,
Inspector of Elementary Schools.

Elementary Schools Office, Valletta,
9th September, 1902.

Enclosure 5 in No. 47.

SIR, Elementary Schools Office, Valletta, September 9, 1902.

I HAVE the honour to forward, herewith, for the information of His Honour the Officer Administering the Government, three Returns, marked respectively A., B., C., showing the percentages of the choice of language made by parents or guardians for their children attending the various standards, at and since the annual examinations, just completed, in the Schools of Malta and Gozo for this scholastic year, and brought up to the 31st ultimo.

2. The declarations made by parents in writing or before witnesses in regard to the above choice, are preserved in this office for future reference, if required; and in exercising their privilege of choice the utmost latitude of action has, as usual, been extended to all parents by the Officers of this Department.

3. The general percentages for both boys and girls are respectively :—

A. Of choice in favour of English as the language of Colloquial Instruction	85·1
B. In favour of English as the Secondary Language of Instruction in the Third Standard	82·5
C. In favour of English only as the language of Examination in the Fifth and higher Standards	30·7
In favour of both English and Italian	68·7
In favour of Italian only	0·6

The percentages in the case of boys only are respectively :—

A. For English as the Language of Colloquial Instruction—Malta, 91·6; Gozo, 43·2; average	90·1
B. For English as the Secondary Language of Education—Malta, 91·5; Gozo, 53·0; average	86·8
C. For English only as the language of Examination—Malta, 50·2; Gozo, 9·8; average	43·1
For English and Italian—Malta, 49·2; Gozo, 88·2; average	56·1
For Italian only—Malta, 0·6; Gozo, 2·0; average	0·8

The percentages in the town and other first-class Boys' Schools are respectively

A. For English as the language of Colloquial Instruction ...	97·0
B. For English as the language of Instruction in Third Standard	94·9
C. For English as the language of Examination	50·9
For English and Italian as the language of Examination ...	48·8
For Italian as the language of Examination...	0·3

4. The Returns for the choice of language for Examination in the Fifth and higher Standards are naturally final for this scholastic year. Those for the choice of language for Colloquial Instruction in the lower, and for the Secondary Language of Instruction in the Third Standard, will, however, eventually undergo further modification during the year, but, in all probability, they will show a still higher percentage in favour of English.

5. For, as may be gathered from the annexed Return D., wherein the choice of the Secondary Language of Instruction in the Third Standard is given as against those obtained since 1898, the trend of these results points to the fact that the late agitation in favour of Italian was only transitory in its effects. In fact, a comparison of the present results, in the case of the Third Standard, with those obtained

at the corresponding period of last year indicate that the percentage in favour of English has very sensibly increased, as may further be seen from the subjoined table:—

Results obtained in	1901.	1902.	Increase in 1902.
Malta	77·5	86·4	8·9
Gozo	34·7	49·1	14·4
Malta and Gozo ...	74·5	82·5	8·0

6. These increases may safely be taken to confirm the view that the manifestation in favour of Italian with the consequent high percentage obtained in favour of that language last year was quite abnormal and artificial, due, to a very great extent, to outside partisan pressure. But this, it appears, has lately abated considerably, and parents, once again left free to consult their own interests, continually revoke their former declarations and ask with insistence for English instead, such requests being granted when possible.

I have, &c.,
E. MAGRO,
Inspector of Elementary Schools.

His Honour
The Lieutenant-Governor and
Chief Secretary to Government.

No. 48.

GOVERNOR LORD GRENFELL to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(Received 1.45 p.m., October 28, 1902.)

TELEGRAM.

[*Answered by No.* 49.]

I am of opinion that unnecessary expense and labour involved in translation of legal documents; strongly recommend appointment of small committee, consisting of Chief Justice, Lieutenant-Governor, Government Advocate, and two lawyers (should) report on present regulations. If you concur, please telegraph reply, so that announcement can be made at opening of Council of Government on November 5. All rights of British-born subjects, of course, absolutely maintained.

No. 49.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN to GOVERNOR LORD GRENFELL.

(Sent 4.30 p.m., October 31, 1902.)

TELEGRAM.

Referring to your telegram of October 28,* appointment of committee approved.

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* No. 48.

No. 50.

GOVERNOR LORD GRENFELL to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(Received November 3, 1902.)

[*Answered by No.* 53.]

SIR, The Palace, Valletta, October 24, 1902.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that I have again had under consideration the question of translation from Italian into English, and *vice versâ*, in the Syllabus for the Matriculation Examination of the University.

2. After a full discussion of the subject in the Executive Council, I am of opinion (and all the Members of the Executive Council agree with me) that if a Candidate elects to be examined in one language only, he should not be required to translate from or into another language of which he may know absolutely nothing.

3. The number of marks given for English and Italian is, in each case, 100, of which 20 are allotted to translation, and, in order to pass, a candidate is required to obtain 35 per cent. of the total number of marks. In the case of a candidate who takes up only one language, I propose to reduce the Maximum number of marks to 80, the percentage of marks required for a pass being the same (35 per cent.).

4. In the case of candidates who take up both languages, I propose to leave the Maximum number of marks for each language as at present (100), and candidates will be required to translate from one language into the other as a test of proficiency.

5. With reference to the resolution of the General Council of the University, referred to in paragraph 3 of General O'Callaghan's despatch of the 31st July,* the Executive Council are of opinion that a candidate who takes up both English and Italian is entitled to count all the marks that he obtains in each language, and that the latter part of Government Notice No. 293, of the 19th November, 1901, gives a candidate who takes up only one language an unfair advantage over a candidate who takes up both languages. As an illustration of this it may be mentioned that, in accordance with the notice mentioned above, a candidate who takes up only one language and obtains 90 would count all those marks towards his aggregate; whereas a candidate who takes up both languages, and obtains 50 marks in one and 40 in the other, would only count 50 towards his aggregate. This is obviously unfair, and I therefore propose to cancel the latter part of the notice in question.

6. As long as it is the policy of the Government to place the two languages on a footing of absolute equality, the marks given to each should be the same, and, in my opinion, a candidate who takes up both languages is fully entitled to any advantage that he may gain over another who takes up only one language.

7. At the last matriculation examination, which is the only one that has been held since the publication of the Notice referred to in paragraph 5, only three candidates out of 53, elected to be examined in one language only, and, as long as Italian is a compulsory subject in the Faculties of Law and Medicine, it is probable that a very large majority of the candidates will elect to be examined in both languages.

I have, &c.,

GRENFELL,

Governor.

* No. 45.

No. 51.

GOVERNOR LORD GRENFELL to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(Received November 5, 1902.)

[*Answered by No.* 52.]

SIR, The Palace, Valletta, October 30, 1902.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that on the 28th instant I despatched to your address a code telegram in the following words:—

"I am of opinion [*See* No. 48] absolutely maintained."

2. It has been represented to me by both the Chief Justice and the Crown Advocate that a good deal of unnecessary labour and expense is entailed by the Order in Council of the 7th of March, 1899, which prescribes that in cases in which a British subject not born or naturalised in Malta is concerned, all legal documents shall be translated into English, whether a translation is demanded or not. While I am fully alive to the paramount necessity of safeguarding the interests of British subjects who come within the above category, I am strongly of opinion that the number of legal documents which are now translated, whether there is a demand for the translation or not, might be very materially reduced without in any way prejudicing the interests of any class of suitors.

3. The expenditure involved is considerable—in the estimates for the current year it amounts to £2,295—and much of the time and labour spent in making translations is thrown away. For these reasons, I have thought it right to suggest that a small committee should be appointed to enquire into the question, and to report how the number of translations can be reduced without affecting the main principle of the Order in Council.

4. I should be glad if I could announce that this committee will sit, in my speech to the Council on the 5th of November.

I have, &c.,
GRENFELL,
Governor.

No. 52.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN to GOVERNOR LORD GRENFELL.

MY LORD, Downing Street, November 13, 1902.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 30th of October,* and to call your attention to my telegram of the 31st,† in which I expressed my approval of the appointment of a committee to enquire into the question of the translation of legal documents.

I have, &c.,
J. CHAMBERLAIN.

No. 53.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN to GOVERNOR LORD GRENFELL.

MY LORD, Downing Street, November 19, 1902.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 24th of October,‡ and to inform you that I approve of the proposals made in it in regard to the question of translation from Italian into English and from English into Italian in the Syllabus of the Matriculation Examination of the University of Malta.

I have, &c.,
J. CHAMBERLAIN.

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* No. 51. † No. 49. ‡ No. 50.

No. 54.

GOVERNOR LORD GRENFELL to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(Received February 3, 1903.)

SIR, The Palace, Valletta, January 29, 1903.

WITH reference to Major-General O'Callaghan's despatch, of the 19th September last,* I have the honour to forward, for your information, further returns relative to the choice of the language of instruction made by parents and guardians on behalf of children attending the Government Elementary Schools in Malta and Gozo.

2. I also forward a copy of a report by the Inspector of Elementary Schools on the results indicated by the returns.

I have, &c.,
GRENFELL,
Governor.

Enclosure 1 in No. 54.

RETURN, showing the number of Parents or Guardians who during the year 1902 have chosen English or Italian as the Language of Colloquial Instruction for their children who are attending the two lower standards of the Government Elementary Schools.

Schools.	English.				Italian.			
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent.
MALTA SCHOOLS.								
Valletta	280	226	506	94·9	10	17	27	5·1
Str. Zecca	—	104	104	92·8	—	8	8	7·2
Cospicua	281	133	414	88·0	12	44	56	12·0
Senglea	149	50	199	93·9	—	13	13	6·1
Vittoriosa	93	276	369	98·6	1	4	5	1·4
Sliema	209	222	431	98·6	1	5	6	1·4
Notabile	143	216	359	98·0	4	3	7	2·0
Hamrun	296	279	575	91·4	16	38	54	8·6
Birchircara	87	332	419	88·6	2	52	54	11·4
Zeitun	73	162	235	73·0	—	87	87	27·0
Floriana	106	67	173	98·3	2	1	3	1·7
Misida	90	10	100	92·7	8	—	8	7·3
Lia	112	161	273	91·0	2	25	27	9·0
Zabbar	123	168	291	99·7	1	—	1	0·3
Tarxen	64	150	214	80·4	16	36	52	9·6
Carried forward ...	2,106	2,556	4,662	91·99	75	333	408	7.34

* No. 47.

Schools.	English.				Italian.			
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent.
Brought forward ...	2,106	2,556	4,662	91·99	75	333	408	7·34
MALTA SCHOOLS—*cont.*								
Luca...	86	67	153	94·4	4	5	9	5·6
Musta	88	155	243	65·7	28	99	127	34·3
Curmi	72	161	233	76·4	38	34	72	23·6
Naxaro	31	25	56	37·0	27	68	95	63·0
Zurrico	44	29	73	47·4	21	60	81	52·6
Zebbug	71	101	172	69·4	27	49	76	30·6
Siggieui	55	38	93	61·1	15	44	59	38·9
Crendi	30	15	45	86·5	3	4	7	13·5
Micabiba	34	60	94	90·4	5	5	10	9·6
Asciak	42	28	70	89·7	4	4	8	10·3
Gudia	36	29	65	94·2	4	—	4	5·8
Gargur	22	32	54	81·8	1	11	12	18·2
Melleha	14	7	21	75·0	—	7	7	25·0
Chircop	8	31	39	90·7	1	3	4	9·3
Dingli	11	22	33	55·0	11	16	27	45·0
GOZO SCHOOLS.								
Victoria	105	55	160	57·8	76	41	117	42·2
Xaghra	39	38	77	41·0	47	64	111	59·0
Nadur	61	95	156	71·2	40	23	63	28·8
Garbo	19	7	26	28·9	35	29	64	71·1
Sannat	5	4	9	9·1	42	48	90	90·9
Xeuchia	44	22	66	68·0	16	15	31	32·0
Ghainsielem	37	35	72	100·0	—	—	—	0·0
Kala...	33	42	75	67·0	28	9	37	33·0
Zebbug	31	—	31	50·8	4	26	30	49·2
RECAPITULATION.								
Malta Schools	2,750	3,356	6,106	85·9	264	742	1,006	14·1
Gozo Schools	374	298	672	55·3	288	255	543	44·7
Malta and Gozo	3,124	3,654	6,778	81·4	552	997	1,549	18·6

E. MAGRO,
Inspector of Elementary Schools.

Elementary Schools Office, Valletta,
December 31, 1902.

Enclosure 2 in No. 54.

FINAL RETURN showing the number of Parents or Guardians who during the year 1902, have chosen English or Italian as the Secondary Language of Instruction for their children who are attending the III Standard of the Government Elementary Schools.

Schools.	English.				Italian.			
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent.
MALTA SCHOOLS.								
Valletta	201	101	302	93·2	15	7	22	6·8
Str. Zecca	—	58	58	84·1	—	11	11	15·9
Cospicua	85	127	212	83·8	6	35	41	16·22
Senglea	47	77	124	89·9	—	14	14	10·1
Vittoriosa	65	108	173	98·3	2	1	3	1·7
Sliema	67	108	175	98·9	—	2	2	1·1
Notabile	37	41	78	96·3	2	1	3	3·7
Hamrun	75	93	168	89·8	3	16	19	10·2
Birchircara	26	51	77	97·5	1	1	2	2·5
Zeitun	62	64	126	78·3	—	35	35	21·7
Floriana	31	57	88	100·0	—	—	—	0·0
Misida	29	72	101	99·0	1	—	1	1·0
Lia	41	80	121	88·3	1	15	16	11·7
Zabbar	30	69	99	100·0	—	—	—	0·0
Tarxen	46	37	83	81·4	7	12	19	18·6
Luca	36	20	56	96·6	1	1	2	3·4
Curmi	32	62	94	81·7	9	12	21	18·3
Musta	31	68	99	79·2	4	22	26	20·8
Naxaro	23	34	57	67·1	10	18	28	32·9
Zurrico	16	15	31	77·5	4	5	9	22·5
Zebbug	14	25	39	52·7	11	24	35	47·3
Siggieui	25	13	38	79·2	2	8	10	20 8
Crendi	—	9	9	100·0	—	—	—	0·0
Micabiba	12	16	28	93·3	2	—	2	6·7
Asciak	6	11	17	77·3	1	4	5	22·7
Gudia	—	12	12	100·0	—	—	—	0·0
Gargur	—	4	4	57·1	—	3	3	42·9
Melleha	6	12	18	94·7	—	1	1	5·3
Chircop	—	9	9	100·0	—	—	—	0·0
Dingli	7	6	13	76·5	2	2	4	23·5

Schools.	English.				Italian.			
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Per cent.
GOZO SCHOOLS.								
Victoria	24	7	31	44·9	21	17	38	55·1
Xaghra	8	8	16	45·7	14	5	19	54·3
Nadur	19	8	27	62·8	12	4	16	37·2
Garbo	—	—	—	0·0	—	8	8	100·0
Sannat	2	—	2	25·0	6	—	6	75·0
Xeuchia	6	2	8	53·3	—	7	7	46·7
Zebbug	—	—	—	0·0	—	—	—	0·0
Ghainsielem	8	10	18	100·0	—	—	—	0·0
Kala	10	—	10	34·5	12	7	19	65·5
RECAPITULATION.								
Malta Schools	1,050	1,459	2,509	88·3	84	250	334	11·7
Gozo School	77	35	112	49·8	65	48	113	50·2
Malta and Gozo	1,127	1,494	2,621	85·4	149	298	447	14·6

E. MAGRO,
Inspector of Elementary Schools.

Elementary Schools Office, Valletta,
December 31, 1902.

Enclosure 3 in No. 54.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT showing the Number of Parents or Guardians who have chosen English or Italian as the Secondary Language of Education for their children attending the III. Standard of the Government Elementary Schools in Malta and Gozo during 1898, 1899, 1900, 1901, and 1902.

	1898.				1899.				1900.				1901.				1902.			
	English.		Italian.		English.		Italian.		English.		Italian.		English.		Italian.		English.		Italian.	
	No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.
Malta	1,250	97·8	38	2·2	1,357	98·6	19	1·4	1,333	99·4	7	0·6	1,612	78·6	439	21·4	2,509	88·3	334	11·7
Gozo	160	84·6	29	15·4	197	92·2	13	7·8	215	95·5	6	4·5	50	34·7	94	65·3	112	49·8	113	50·2
Malta and Gozo	1,410	95·4	67	4·6	1,554	97·1	32	2·9	1,548	98·5	13	1·5	1,662	75·7	533	24·3	2,621	85·4	447	14·6

E. MAGRO,
Inspector of Elementary Schools.

Elementary Schools Office, Valletta,
December 31, 1902.

Enclosure 4 in No. 54.

COMPARATIVE Statement showing the number of Parents or Guardians who have chosen English or Italian as the Secondary Language of Education for their children who are attending the III Standard of the Government Elementary Schools, (1) showing the number of declarations taken after the Annual Examinations and (2) the number during the year 1902.

		English.		Italian.	
		Number.	Per cent.	Number.	Per cent.
(I) Number taken after the Annual Examination.	Malta	1,595	86·4	251	13·6
	Gozo	105	49·1	109	50·9
	Malta and Gozo ...	1,700	82·5	360	17·5
(II) Number up to the end of the year 1902.	Malta	2,509	88·3	334	11·7
	Gozo	112	49·8	113	50·2
	Malta and Gozo ...	2,621	85·4	447	14·6

Elementary Schools Office, Valletta,
January 17, 1903.

E. MAGRO,
Inspector of Elementary Schools.

Enclosure 5 in No. 54.

ANALYSIS of the Results obtained in the year 1902 with reference to the choice made by the Parents or Guardians of the Secondary Language of Education (English or Italian) for their children attending the III Standard of the Government Elementary Schools.

	English.		Italian.	
	Number.	Per cent.	Number.	Per cent.
MALTA SCHOOLS.				
Boys	1,050	92·6	84	7·4
Girls	1,459	85·3	250	14·7
Total	2,509	88·3	334	11·7
GOZO SCHOOLS.				
Boys	77	54·2	65	45·8
Girls	35	42·2	48	57·8
Total	112	49·8	113	50·2
MALTA AND GOZO SCHOOLS.				
Boys	1,127	88·3	149	11·7
Girls	1,494	83·4	298	16·6
Total	2,621	85·4	447	14·6

Elementary Schools Office, Valletta,
January 17, 1903.

E. MAGRO,
Inspector of Elementary Schools.

Enclosure 6 in No. 54.

(Extract.)

SIR, Elementary Schools Office, Valletta, January 17, 1903.

I HAVE the honour to forward, herewith, for the information of His Excellency the Governor:—

(1.) The final return, in triplicate, showing the number of parents or guardians, who during the year 1902 have chosen English or Italian as the language of colloquial instruction for their children attending the two lower standards of the Government Elementary Schools.

(2.) The final return, in triplicate, showing the number of parents or guardians, who, during the year 1902 have chosen English or Italian as the secondary language of education for their children attending the III Standard of the Government Elementary Schools.

(3) A comparative statement of (2) compared with the declarations made in 1898, 1899, 1900 and 1901.

(4) A comparative statement showing the numbers obtained after the Annual Examinations, compared with those received up to the end of 1902, and

(5) An analysis of the results of the total number of declarations received during 1902.

The percentages of declaration in favour of English for boys only made during the two years were:—

	1901.		1902.
In Malta	84.7	...	92.6
In Gozo	28.9	...	54.2
In Malta and Gozo	79.2	...	88.3

The returns show that the declarations in favour of English continue to be in an overwhelming majority in the two Islands taken together, in Malta especially, and more particularly for the boys. The net total increase of nearly 10 per cent. in favour of English evinces the fact that the selection for that language, which received a check last year owing to the misrepresentation of political agitators, has materially increased.

The original declarations of the parents or guardians made for either language have, in all cases, as usual, been made in writing or before witnesses, and are retained in this office for further reference, whenever required.

I have, &c.,
E. MAGRO,
Inspector of Elementary Schools.

His Honour
The Lieutenant-Governor and
Chief Secretary to Government.

No. 55.

GOVERNOR LORD GRENFELL to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(Received March 10, 1903.)

(Extract.)

The Palace, Valletta, March 5, 1903.

As there will not be many more meetings of the Council of Government before my departure from Malta, I consider it advisable to explain briefly the present political situation for your information and that of my successor, to whom a copy of this despatch has been sent.

During the present session, the attitude of the Elected Members has not been marked by any special opposition to Government measures, although some useful clauses in the Food and Drugs Bill, now before the Council, and in other measures, have been altered or rejected.

When the Council adjourned in May last, the Education Estimates had been voted for eight months only, and the Elected Members had declared that, unless concessions were made with respect to the language and education questions, they would refuse to vote the necessary provision for the remainder of the year. On the re-assembling of the Council in November, owing to the fact that the Lieutenant-Governor had only recently arrived in the island, and had not had sufficient time to make himself thoroughly acquainted with all the details of the language question, the Elected Members were persuaded to vote the provision for the remainder of the financial year, on the understanding that the language question would be fully discussed when the Estimates for 1903-4 were brought forward.

The consideration of the Estimates in Committee of Supply will be commenced next week, and when the Education Estimates are reached a prolonged discussion may be expected. Dr. Mizzi, who represents the extremist section of the so-called "National Party," recently had a long conference with the Lieutenant-Governor, in which he showed clearly that, in spite of the views of the Elected Members having been met on many points, he holds the same views as before. He is absolutely opposed to free choice of language in the elementary schools, and desires that both Italian and English should be compulsory. He maintains that the overwhelming declaration in favour of English among the lower classes, which has been shown in the returns forwarded by the Inspector of Elementary Schools, has been obtained by undue influence on the part of the Government (how this influence is exerted he does not condescend to state), and persists in describing Italian as the "national language." He also demands absolute equality between the two languages in the examinations for the Civil Service and all other employments under the Government.

Mr. Azzopardi probably shares Dr. Mizzi's views, and the other Elected Members, whatever they may think, invariably vote with them on all questions. I do not believe, however, that the two leaders of the Elected Members in the Council have the support of many of the local politicians outside the Council, but on this point I have no precise information at present.

It may be convenient to mention here the changes which have been made, with your approval, in connection with the language question since the withdrawal of the proclamation regarding the language of the Courts. These are:—

(i.) The decision to reduce as far as possible the number of translations of legal documents in the Courts. I have not yet received the report of the Committee appointed to consider this question.

(ii.) The alteration of the rate regarding the marks awarded for translation (English and Italian) in the Matriculation Examination, which was considered to give an undue advantage to candidates who took up only one language.

From what I have stated above it will be seen that there is at present a good deal of uncertainty as to the turn that affairs may take; and while I hope that it may not become necessary to have recourse to extreme measures, I am unable to say that the situation is entirely free from complications.

No. 56.

GOVERNOR SIR C. M. CLARKE to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(Received 11.35 a.m., April 25, 1903.)

TELEGRAM.

[*Answered by No.* 57.]

Education estimates for current year rejected by unofficial members of Council on account of refusal of Government (to) abolish free choice of language. If you

approve, propose to issue warrant for amount required for May. Explanatory despatch* follows.

No. 57.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN to GOVERNOR SIR C. M. CLARKE.

(Sent 2.55 p.m., April 27, 1903.)

TELEGRAM.

Referring to your telegram of 25th April.† Pending decision on situation now created, I am ready to approve warrant as temporary expedient.

No. 58.

GOVERNOR SIR C. M. CLARKE to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(Received May 1, 1903.)

[*Answered by No.* 62.]

SIR, The Palace, Valletta, April 25, 1903.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you the enclosed petition, addressed to the King by the Elected Members of the Council of Government, which was sent on board the royal yacht during His Majesty's stay at Malta, and was returned to me by the Minister in attendance.

2. The "memorial, covered by 80,000 signatures," referred to in this petition is the one forwarded with my predecessor's despatch, of the 18th January, 1902,‡ in which the number of signatures is given as about 63,000. It is not necessary for me to say anything further regarding the misrepresentations contained in that memorial; and the fact that the Elected Members, in their present petition, have deliberately over-stated the number of signatures by 17,000 speaks for itself.

3. I take this opportunity of reporting that the estimates for the current year have been voted by the Council (with certain reductions, as to which I am addressing you separately), except those for the Education Department, which have been voted for one month only. On the day when the discussion of the education estimates was to have taken place, the Lieutenant-Governor was unfortunately prevented by illness from attending the meeting, and the Elected Members seized the opportunity to again postpone the discussion, which they had already put off several times on various pretexts.

4. They have been informed, in reply to a question put in Council, that no change is contemplated in the policy of the Government with regard to education, and it has been announced in the paper owned by Dr. Mizzi that, unless free choice is done away with, they will refuse to vote the education estimates; but apparently they lack the courage to bring matters to a crisis. On the 22nd instant, when the estimates were again brought forward, they again postponed the debate on the grounds:—

(A) That they have presented a petition to His Majesty the King (the one forwarded herewith); and

(B) That they do not wish to do anything which might cause unpleasantness during His Majesty's visit to Italy.

If the second of the above grounds means anything at all, it means that they will endeavour to raise an agitation in the Italian press on the language question; but, as long as freedom of choice between the two languages is maintained, it is not likely that the Italian Government will concern themselves about the educational policy of this Government, nor, I submit, would they have any justification for doing so.

5. The education estimates must either be voted or rejected by the end of the current month. Should they be rejected, I do not propose to close any of the educational establishments, but to issue a warrant for the necessary expenditure pending the receipt of instructions from you. I need hardly add that the rejection

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* No. 60. † No. 56. ‡ *See* Appendices IV. and V.

of these estimates would afford ample justification to His Majesty's Government for the repeal of the present Constitution.

I have, &c.,
CHAS. M. CLARKE,
Governor.

Enclosure in No. 58.

To the King's Most Excellent Majesty.

Humble MEMORIAL of the Undersigned, Elected Members of the Council of Government of Malta.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,

WE, the undersigned Elected Members of the Council of Government of Malta, whilst approaching devoutly the Throne of Your Majesty to affirm our loyalty and attachment to Your August Person and to Your Majesty's Throne, venture to raise our humble prayer to Your Majesty that Your Majesty may be graciously pleased to condescend to the supplication of the loyal and faithful population of these islands, recently humbled at the foot of Your Majesty's Throne in a memorial covered by eighty thousand (80,000) signatures, and confirmed by a like petition from His Grace the Archbishop, Bishop of Malta, and by the Chapter of the Cathedral Church of the diocese.

The undersigned, convinced of Your Majesty's magnanimity and justice, sincerely trust that a word from Your Majesty will render happy and contented the Maltese population.

That the Almighty, in His mercy, may continue to shower His blessings on Your Majesty and on all the Royal Family is ever the fervent prayer of the undersigned, and of the people they represent.

ALFONSO M. MICALLEF.
AVV. BEN. BONNICI.
P. SAMMUT.
DR. AND. PULLICINO.
MSE. EMM. TESTAFERRATA BONICI.
F. AZZOPARDI, P.L.
AVV. FRANCESCO CARDONA.
CESARE DARMANIN.
NOT. P. BARTOLI, P.L.
F. WETTINGER.
ED. SEMINI.
S. CACHIA ZAMMIT.
AVV. FORTUNATO MIZZI.

Malta, April, 1903.

No. 59.

GOVERNOR SIR C. M. CLARKE to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(Received May 5, 1903.)

[*Answered by No.* 69.]

SIR, The Palace, Valletta, April 30, 1903.

I HAVE the honour to forward, for your information, a copy of the draft Estimates* for the year 1903-4, as submitted to the Council of Government, together with a list of reductions made by the Elected Members on grounds which are, in my opinion, insufficient.

2. I propose, with your approval, to charge the amounts disallowed by the Elected Members to the £9,000 reserved under the Order in Council of the 26th September, 1901, and I will state briefly, in each case, the reasons given by the Elected Members for the reduction.

3. The salary of the Clerk of Councils was reduced because the Elected Members disapproved of the increase to Mr. G. Borg Cardona's salary, proposed in my predecessor's despatch of the 6th March, and in his despatch, of the 11th April, 1902,* and approved by your telegram of the 19th March, and

* Not printed.

your despatch, of the 24th April, 1902*. It was pointed out to them that the salary of the Clerk of Councils had always been £150, and if they wished to make any reduction it was open to them to reduce the portion of his salary as Chief Clerk in the Lieutenant-Governor's office, appearing among the voted services under Head V., Item 3, but in spite of this they persisted in reducing the salary of the Clerk of Councils.

4. The rent of the house occupied by the Assistant Secretary to Government for Gozo, which has always been voted hitherto, was refused on the ground of the increase to Mr. Casolani's salary authorised in your despatch of the 21st August, 1902.* The increase being charged to the Civil List, the Elected Members could not reject it, and they, therefore, rejected the house allowance.

5. The allowance of £3 per annum to the Keeper of Delimara lighthouse for attending to the light at Fort St. Lucian was refused on the ground that the light was erected at the request of the Admiralty and was not required for local purposes. There is no doubt that the light was intended mainly to facilitate the approach to the naval anchorage in Marsascirocco Bay; but it is also of use to the local fishing-boats, and it would not be possible for so small a sum to find a person able and willing to attend to this light.

6. Owing to the restoration of the Auditor-General's salary to its previous amount, which was approved in your despatch of the 15th December, 1902,* the addition of £50 to the salary of the Deputy Auditor-General, which was approved in paragraph 12 of your despatch of the 6th March, 1902,* had to be included among the voted services, and was refused by the Elected Members. As Mr. Francica has been in receipt of the addition for about a year, it would not be fair to allow him to lose it. I propose to include this sum in the revised Civil List, and in the meantime to charge it to the £9,000 under the Order in Council.

7. The two sums of £25 voted in last year's Estimates for the instruction of the Land and Marine Police in first aid to the wounded, &c., have been rejected this year without any reason. The object of the vote is a very useful one, and should not, I submit, be defeated by a caprice of the Elected Members.

8. In consequence of the increase to the salary of the Sanitary Medical Officer (£50) which, with your approval, was charged last year to the £9,000 under the Order in Council, the Elected Members have refused to vote the sum of £30, personal to that officer, which was voted by them last year. This sum should, therefore, be also charged to the £9,000.

9. For a similar reason the salary of the Veterinary Surgeon, Superintendent of the Slaughter-house, which was last year increased by £100, chargeable to the Order in Council (*vide* your despatch of the 26th May, 1902),† has been reduced by £90, and the Elected Members have announced their intention of making a corresponding reduction in the voted services whenever an increase of salary is charged to the Civil List or the Order in Council. The amount of the reduction does not correspond with that of the increase, but that is probably due to a mistake on the part of the Member who moved the reduction.

10. Items 29 and 30, under Head XX., were rejected under the impression that these items were increases over last year's Estimates. As a matter of fact, extra Clerks and Postmen have been hitherto paid, when required, out of Savings on Establishment or from other votes, but it was thought desirable to enter these services separately in the Estimates, and the result is that they have been rejected owing to the inability or unwillingness of the Elected Members to understand the intention of the Government.

11. The transport expenses of the Inspector of Agriculture, which were charged last year to the vote for Transport to Departments having no allotment (see Head XXIII., Item 27), was shown separately in the Estimates, and was consequently refused, the Elected Members saying that when they agreed to the salary of that officer (£135 per annum) they understood that he would provide his own transport. Nothing was said as regards transport at the time of his appointment, but the Executive Council, whom I consulted on the question, did not consider it fair that, with such a small salary, the Inspector of Agriculture should be expected to pay his own travelling expenses, and I concurred in their view.

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* Not printed.

† No 36.

12. The compilation of Agricultural Statistics has hitherto been carried out by the Police. The work is not well done by them, and the Superintendent of Police is anxious that they should be relieved of it so that they have more time for their own proper duties. Now that an Inspector of Agriculture has been appointed, he is clearly the proper person to prepare statistics relating to agriculture, and he has asked for the modest sum of £100 for this purpose. The Elected Members, forgetting or ignoring the fact that these statistics form part of the returns required for the Blue Book, have rejected the vote.

13. The sum entered under Public Works Extraordinary for providing additional accommodation at the Veterinary Surgeon's quarters is absolutely necessary, and was inserted in the Estimates after careful enquiry and personal inspection of the quarters by the Lieutenant-Governor. It is very desirable that the Veterinary Surgeon should reside at the abattoir, and it is only right that suitable accommodation should be provided for him and his wife, which is not the case at present.

14. It may be remarked that these reductions, when not dictated by mere caprice, have been made with a view to protesting against the power of the Secretary of State to charge to the Civil List or to the Order in Council sums which have been refused without sufficient reason, and show a determination on the part of the Elected Members to resort to obstructive measures.

15. In addition to the reductions mentioned above, they have refused to vote not only the increase of £3,000 included under Head XXIII., Item 55, but also the £3,000 which were voted by them for this service last year. This has been avowedly done with the idea that the Government will be obliged to charge the sum of £6,000 to the £9,000 under the Order in Council. I believe, however, that this will not be necessary. I will report later how this sum is to be provided.

I have, &c.,
CHAS. M. CLARKE,
Governor.

Enclosure in No. 59.

SCHEDULE showing amounts deducted from the General Estimates 1903-4 by the Elected Members and chargeable, on approval by the Secretary of State, to the Order in Council, 1901.

Head.	Item.	Personal emoluments.	Other charges.	Amount of reduction.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
IV. Councils	3. Clerk to the Councils ...	150 0 0	—	100 0 0
V. Lieutenant-Governor's Department.	37. Rent of house at Victoria, Gozo, occupied by Assistant Secretary.	—	35 0 0	35 0 0
VII. Customs Department	55. Allowance to man in charge, Fort St. Lucian.	3 0 0	—	3 0 0
VIII. Audit Office ...	2. Deputy Auditor General ...	50 0 0	—	50 0 0
XIII. Police Department	44 & 66. Instructions to officers and policemen in first aid to the wounded, &c. (land and marine).	—	50 0 0	50 0 0
XIV. Public Health Department.	18. Personal to Sanitary Medical Officer.	30 0 0	—	30 0 0
	46. Veterinary Surgeon Superintendent.	120 0 0	—	90 0 0
XX. Post Office ...	29 & 30. Extra clerical assistance and extra postmen.	240 0 0	—	240 0 0
XXIII. Miscellaneous Services.	7. Transport to Inspector of Agriculture.	—	35 0 0	35 0 0
	14. Compilation of agricultural statistics.	—	100 0 0	100 0 0
XXVII. Public Works Extraordinary.	2. Providing additional accommodation in Veterinary Surgeon's quarters.	—	240 0 0	240 0 0
			Total ...	973 0 0

No. 60.

GOVERNOR SIR C. M. CLARKE to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(Received May 5, 1903.)

[*Answered by No.* 67.]

SIR, The Palace, Valletta, April 30, 1903.

WITH reference to my telegram of the 25th instant, and in continuation of my despatch of the same date,* I have the honour to inform you that, at a meeting of the Council of Government, held on the 24th instant, the Elected Members rejected the Education Estimates for the remaining eleven months of the current year, supplies for one month only having been voted by them at the meeting held on the 30th ultimo.

2. The Elected Members have taken this step in consequence of the refusal of the Government to do away with the principle of free choice of language in the Elementary Schools, which has been the leading feature of the policy of the Government in regard to education for some time past.

3. The arguments adduced against free choice in the course of the debate were the following, viz. :—

(1) that the majority of the Maltese do not desire free choice, but wish that both English and Italian should be compulsory;

(2) that the choice is not free, because the parents of children attending the Elementary Schools have to make their declaration of choice to the teachers in the schools, who, it is alleged, influence them in favour of English;

(3) that the Imperial Government has no right to interfere in purely local matters, of which public instruction is alleged to be one, and that such interference constitutes a violation of the promises made by Great Britain when the Maltese ceded their islands to her.

4. These thread-bare arguments have been refuted over and over again, but it may be as well to repeat once more the reasons for which the Government has determined to adhere to the principle of free choice.

(1) Free choice is absolutely fair, and under the present system a boy can learn either English or Italian in the first four standards of the Elementary Schools, as his parents may desire, while, if he remains at school long enough to reach the fifth standard, he is obliged to learn both languages. There is no evidence, except the statement of the Elected Members, that the majority of the Maltese wish both languages to be compulsory in the Elementary Schools, and there is evidence to the contrary in the shape of petitions which have been received by the Inspector of Elementary Schools and the Government from parents belonging to the working classes, praying that their sons may not be compelled to learn Italian which is of no use to them. As a matter of fact, a large majority of the boys attending the Elementary Schools eventually learn a trade, or earn their living as labourers or domestic servants. These boys generally leave school while they are in the fourth standard, and consequently learn only one language, and the comparatively small number who desire to enter the Lyceum and afterwards the University, learn both languages, because both languages are still obligatory subjects in the higher standards of the Elementary Schools, as well as in the Lyceum and the University, although, in the entrance and all other examinations in the two latter, candidates cannot be compelled to be examined in more than one language.

(2) There is no truth in the statement that the teachers in the Elementary Schools now influence parents in their choice of language, or that

* Nos. 56 and 58.

parents choose English because they know that the Government wishes them to do so; while it is well known that, not very long ago, the influence of the Elected Members, aided by the Parish Priests, was actively exercised in the opposite direction. When parents were first called upon to make their choice, some of them, who were unable to make up their minds, asked the teachers to advise them; but such cases were few, and there is every reason to believe that the choice is now, as it should be, absolutely free. I may add that the declaration of choice has now to be made in writing or in the presence of two witnesses. Even if there were a desire on the part of the Maltese that both languages should be compulsory, it has been decided, on the advice of educational experts, that to subject the brains of children of tender years to the strain of learning two foreign languages, besides their own language, amounts to positive cruelty.

(3) With regard to the third argument of the Elected Members, it is only necessary to observe that the Imperial Government has every right to interfere in any matter concerning the general welfare of the people in any British possession, especially when there is a danger that the interests of the majority may be sacrificed to the wishes of a small minority.

5. The action of the Elected Members in this matter leaves me no option but to recommend an immediate change in the Constitution. Under the present Constitution, which I venture to think was doomed to failure from the outset, the Government is perpetually hampered by the capricious manner in which the Elected Members exercise the control which has been given them over the finances of the Colony, while they themselves complain that they have no real power, as long as the Government reserves the right of veto, and the power to legislate over their heads by Order in Council.

6. The other reductions which they have made in the estimates have been made with the avowed intention of compelling the Government to charge the sums which they have refused to the £9,000 reserved under the Order in Council of the 26th September, 1901, and with the idea that when that sum is exhausted, the Government will have nothing to fall back upon. Instead of assisting the Government by honest criticism of the measures brought before them, they oppose all useful legislation, and render it almost impossible to carry on the work of the Government.

7. Should you concur in this view, it will, I think, be better to adjourn the Council *sine die*, and to dissolve it as soon as the new Letters Patent are ready to be issued. Pending the receipt of instructions from you, I propose to issue a warrant of advance for the sum necessary to carry on the service of the Education Departments for one month, as it is most undesirable that the Government Educational establishments should be closed in consequence of the action of the Elected Members. If the Constitution is changed, this warrant, and any subsequent warrants that may be issued, will be covered by a vote of the new Council; but, in whatever way the warrant may eventually be covered, it is desirable to let the Elected Members see that their action will not have the effect of putting a stop, even temporarily, to all education. The warrant of advance will not include any increases to salaries or establishments which have been approved by you, but not yet sanctioned by the Elected Members, and I shall await your instructions as to dealing with such increases.

8. The short-hand report of the debates* will be forwarded to you as soon as it is ready.

I have, &c.,
CHAS. M. CLARKE,
Governor.

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* *See* Enclosure in No. 63.

No. 61.

GOVERNOR SIR C. M. CLARKE to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(Received May 12, 1903.)

[*Answered by No.* 69.]

SIR, The Palace, Valletta, May 7, 1903.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that, shortly before his departure from Malta, my predecessor had under his consideration the question of the emoluments of the Government Veterinary Surgeon.

2. Mr. Macfarlane joined the service originally on a three years' agreement, on the expiration of which he agreed to continue to serve on the following terms, viz.:—

Salary	£264
Fees, not exceeding	86
	£350

In addition to which he was to be allowed private practice on condition that it should not be allowed to interfere with his official work. This arrangement dated from the 16th January, 1901, and Mr. Macfarlane subsequently claimed an allowance for transport in addition to the emoluments mentioned above. The late Chief Secretary contended that the transport allowance was included in the salary of £264, while Mr. Macfarlane maintained that it was not, and this point was not settled before Sir Gerald Strickland's departure.

3. After carefully enquiring into all the circumstances, Lord Grenfell came to the conclusion that Mr. Macfarlane was entitled to a transport allowance in addition to his other emoluments, and fixed the amount at £96 per annum, the amount of travelling to be done having very considerably increased in the last two years. He also decided that this allowance should be paid to Mr. Macfarlane from the 16th January, 1901.

4. I have already reported that the Elected Members have recently reduced the salary of the Veterinary Surgeon by £90 because £100 of his salary has been paid out of the £9,000 reserved under the Order in Council of 1901, and there is not the least likelihood that they will vote the sum required to give effect to Lord Grenfell's decision. I therefore solicit your authority to charge to the £9,000 under the Order in Council the sum of £308 2s. 7d. in addition to the £90 mentioned in paragraph 9 of my despatch of the 30th ultimo.* I enclose, for your information, a statement showing how this sum is made up.

5. Mr. Macfarlane is a highly-qualified Veterinary Surgeon, and the experience which he has gained in dealing with the large and increasing import trade in cattle, and in carrying out sanitary regulations in connection with the supply of meat in these islands, is of great value to the Government. I therefore trust that the arrangement made by Lord Grenfell will meet with your approval.

I have, &c.,
CHAS. M. CLARKE,
Governor.

Enclosure in No. 61.

STATEMENT of amount to be charged to Order in Council of 1901.

Transport allowance at £96 per annum from 16th January, 1901, to 31st March, 1903	£212	2	7
Transport allowance at £96 per annum from 1st April, 1903, to 31st March, 1904	96	0	0
	£308	2	7

* No. 59.

No. 62.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN to GOVERNOR SIR C. M. CLARKE.

SIR, Downing Street, May 27, 1903.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 25th of April last,* transmitting a petition to the King from the Elected Members of the Council of Government, and to request that you will cause the Elected Members to be informed that their petition has been laid before the King, but that His Majesty has not been pleased to give any directions with regard to it.

I have, &c.,
J. CHAMBERLAIN.

No. 63.

GOVERNOR SIR C. M. CLARKE to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(Received June 1, 1903.)

SIR, The Palace, Valletta, May 26, 1903.

WITH reference to the last paragraph of my despatch of the 30th ultimo,† I have the honour to forward, for your information, the shorthand report of the debates‡ which took place when the Education Estimates were under discussion in Committee of Supply.

I have, &c.,
CHAS. M. CLARKE,
Governor.

Enclosure in No. 63.

SUPPLY.

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE No. 4 FOR 1903-4.

(In the Committee.)

XVII. Education.

£9,160 17s. 1d. as detailed in the Estimate.

The LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR.—This is an adjourned debate on a resolution which has already been moved and seconded so that there was no necessity to propose this resolution to-day.

The VICE-PRESIDENT.—This is a new vote for eleven months, so that this is not the same resolution moved the other day.

The LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR.—I regret that circumstances over which I had no control prevented my being present in the Committee on the 30th March, when the Education question was debated. I say circumstances over which I had no control, because the hon. member who represents the Third District took advantage of my absence to say that I had found that the truth was on the side of the elected members, and that I had not had the courage to come here and support the Government. I am prepared for almost anything the hon. member may say or do, but I must honestly confess that I was not prepared for this. I am only a simple Englishman, and possibly my education in political subterfuges has been neglected, but it would never have occurred to me that any other member of this Council would keep away from his post when he had a duty to perform, and, therefore, I did not expect that any member would have accused me of doing such a thing . . . . .

Mr. AZZOPARDI.—Mi alzo per una spiegazione personale. Mi dispiace vedere che l'onor. Luogotenente Governatore non abbia letto tutto il dibattimento o non ha compreso quello che si è detto da parte mia. Io allora aveva detto che cosa le mie parole significavano. Lungi dal fare una accusa di codardia anzi io attribuiva un

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* No. 58. † No. 60. ‡ The Lieutenant-Governor's speech only is reprinted.

atto lodevole all'onorevole signore, quello cioè di non venire in questo Consiglio a sostenere una causa che egli era convinto non dovesse essere sostenuta. Certamente come membro del Governo se si persuadesse della giustizia dei nostri reclami e non potesse sostenerli per ragione del suo ufficio sarebbe molto lodevole astenersi dall' intervenire nella seduta ma era ben lungi da me accusare l'onor. signore di codardia. Sua Signoria il Vice-Presidente medesimo in quella seduta ha dichiarato che ha capito le mie parole nel senso che ho espresso.

The LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR.—I have read the explanation given by the hon. member, but I am bound to say that in my opinion he has got himself deeper into the mire. He said he did not intend to accuse me of cowardice, and I accept his denial, but he went on to say that because I had been persuaded of the justice of the cause of the elected members, I was doing a laudable act in keeping away from my post. The hon. member forgets that, besides a duty to the members of the Council I have a duty to the Government, and if I had shirked my duty, and kept away simply because I thought that the elected members were right, and the Government wrong, I should have committed an act of the most despicable cowardice towards the Government. If I had been in that position, it would have been my duty to go to the Governor and to say that I was unable to support the Government, but my absence from the Council would not have helped the elected members in any way, and it would have been an act of the most abominable cowardice. Having made that declaration I pass on. I will only add that I wish it to be clearly understood that I shall never shirk any duty I have to do here, however unpleasant it may be. I have read the recent debate on the subject of education, and I have not succeeded in discovering any new arguments. The elected members have gone over old ground, used old arguments, and brought forward the old charges against the Government. They have also wandered a good deal from the subject of education, and in this I do not propose to imitate the hon. members, but I propose to confine my remarks strictly to the subject of education. I may observe that in the discussions that have taken place both here and at public meetings, it has been the custom to complicate the question by the introduction of other subjects, such as the constitution and the taxes. Before I proceed to state my own views upon the subject of education, I should like to refer to one remark which was made by the hon. member for the Tenth District. He referred to a letter which he wrote to me on the 19th February, and stated that he had not yet received a reply. That statement is absolutely correct, and I desire to say that my reason for not sending a reply was not due to any want of courtesy but simply because I thought it would be better for me to reply when the occasion arose in the debate upon the education question. The language question, which it has been the custom to speak of here as one comparatively simple question, is not so simple a matter as it is supposed to be. The language question, so far as I can see, divides itself into three main heads: first, the question of the official language of the Government; secondly, the question of the language in the Courts; and thirdly, the question of language in regard to education. As regards the first two, I propose to say very little. The question of the official language may be regarded as settled. Malta being a British possession it stands to reason that the official language is the English language. The question of the language of the Courts may also be said to be practically settled. It is not necessary now to discuss the reasons why Italian became the language of the Courts in Malta. The proclamation that English would be the language of the Courts in Malta in twenty years has been withdrawn, and that question, therefore, has been settled, at all events for some time. As matters now stand, Italian must remain the language of the Courts, and if any change is made in the future, I apprehend it will be made because there is a general desire for a change on the part of the people. The question of language in regard to education again subdivides itself into two heads, viz., the language to be taught, and the medium of instruction; and each of these separate heads has to be considered in relation to the Elementary Schools, the Lyceum, and the University. In dealing with the question of the language to be taught, the first question that naturally arises is, what is the national language? Now, Sir, I have no hesitation whatever in saying that the national language of Malta is Maltese. (Voices, Oh!) Maltese is universally spoken even by the educated classes; it is the language spoken by hon. members of this Council when they are conversing together outside this Chamber; it is the language which is spoken by everybody of Maltese birth. The foundation of the Maltese language, as everyone knows, was laid about one thousand years ago, when the Arabs took possession of Malta; the Arabs remained

only about 200 years in possession of Malta, but their influence was so strong upon the language of the country that when Roger the Norman came here, he found the Maltese Arabs in language. (Voices. No.) I gather this from the report of Mr. (afterwards Sir) Patrick Keenan on education. He says that "this is the language to which, with characteristic Saracenic pertinacity, the Maltese still cling."

Dr. MIZZI.—Mi potrebbe dare la pagina?

The LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR.—Page 2 of the Report. The Government has been accused of trying to stamp out Italian; but, Sir, those who are in favour of forcing the Italian language here, are doing a still worse thing—they are trying to stamp out their own mother tongue. With regard to this point, I beg to refer again to the admirable report of Mr. Keenan. On page 91 of this report, par. XXIV., he says: "Even were the destruction of the Maltese language desirable, no edict, no anathema, no process of hindrance or embarrassment could accomplish such a purpose. Nor would the expedient of leaving the people in ignorance, *i.e.*, of leaving them as at present is, to a vast extent, the case, incapable of reading a book in Maltese, whilst unable to acquire sufficient ability to read one in English or Italian, accomplish the desire of those who sigh for the obliteration of the Maltese. Such a course would simply mean that the people are to get no chance, much less choice, of acquiring a knowledge of their own or of any other language. In the interest of those who long for the extinction of the Maltese, even were I to be found in sympathy with them, I could advise the adoption of no other course than that of first teaching the Maltese, and then, through its medium, the language which, in the long run, may be destined to supplant it." Now, Sir, those who support the Italian language here, and who are averse to the teaching of the Maltese language, are those who have conferred upon themselves the title of the "Partito Nazionale"; and in order to ascertain the views of that party on this subject, one naturally turns to the organ of the party. On the 11th February last, an article was published in the "Malta e sue Dipendenze" entitled "Il Pari Passu." It is signed by a gentleman who writes under the *nom de plume* of "*Marco Bruno*." I need hardly say that this is an article on the Language Question. Among other things *Marco Bruno* says that this people, without a knowledge of the Italian language would become so lowered in the political and social scale that it would descend to the level of the natives of the West Indies—"the coolies." This is a very terrible picture. The natives of the West Indies are described as a wild and savage race, who, among other wild and savage characteristics, are ignorant of the Italian language. Sir, if that is true of the people of this country, the Maltese, it must be true of every other people that does not speak Italian. Any Frenchman, any German, any Englishman who does not happen to have a knowledge of Italian would sink to the level of this mysterious race—the coolies. I may remark in passing that the writer of the article seems to have got rather adrift as to the meaning of the word "coolie." The coolies are not a race of people as he seems to imagine; but "coolie" is a word which is used in India and all over the East to denote a day labourer. There are coolies of very many races. In fact in India and all over the Far East the workmen employed here by the Superintendent of Public Works, as day labourers, would be called "coolies." *Marco Bruno* goes on to observe . . . .

Mr. AZZOPARDI.—Ma chi è questa autorità?

The LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR.—I do not know.

Mr. AZZOPARDI.—Allora che autorità è questa?

The LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR.—I am quoting from a leading article in the organ of the "Partito Nazionale" in order to show what the views of the Partito Nazionale are. The writer goes on to say that a Maltese who is ignorant of the Italian language would be nothing but an Anglicised African—"*un Africano inglesizzato.*" That may be perfectly true; but I submit that a Maltese who has no knowledge of English, and can only stammer a few words of Italian would be nothing more than an "Italianized African." Which of these two—the Anglicized African or the Italinized African—is likely to be of more value to the country, or likely to be able to succeed in life better than the other, is a question which hon. members can settle for themselves. Another of the arguments brought forward by *Marco Bruno* is that, by preserving the Italian language here, the English are prevented from coming

in and taking the bread out of the mouths of the Maltese. I am not aware of any overwhelming desire on the part of Englishmen to come to Malta and settle down here. I believe the inducements are hardly sufficient. It has been stated in other places that, if the language of the Courts had been changed and become English, English lawyers would have flocked to Malta, and taken away the bread out of the mouths of Maltese lawyers. I think that is quite a misapprehension. In the first place that would have been quite impossible, because no English lawyers can practise here, without having gone through a course of the law which prevails here, which is entirely different to the English law. It is not likely that any man who has been called to the bar in England would be willing to come out here and go through a three or four years' course in law in the University of Malta in order to practise as a barrister. I have mentioned these arguments of *Marco Bruno,* because, as far as I can understand, they are the only arguments in favour of retaining Italian, and doing away with English and Maltese. He concludes his remarks by saying that Italian is the language of literature, of culture, and of civilization, and he cannot possibly admit that this language should yield to the language of the people which at present *dominate* us. That is another very common remark here—the English are spoken of as "*i nostri dominatori*" (the people that dominate us) and not unfrequently as "i nostri oppressori"; but apparently at other times different language is used. I was very glad to see that in the addresses which were presented to His Majesty the King during the past week, there is every evidence of the greatest possible loyalty, and I think that in all these addresses the persons presenting them have stated that they are very proud of belonging to the glorious British Empire. This shows, however, that on one occasion one kind of language is used, and on other occasions quite a different kind of language is employed. Whilst boasting of belonging to the glorious British Empire, the "national party" commonly use such terms as "oppressori," "dominatori," and other uncomplimentary phrases when speaking of the English. In a letter written by the late Sir Adrian Dingli to Mr. Keenan, he says that the Italian language "has, since the 14th century, and especially in the time of the Knights of St. John, been the written language of these Islands," but, Sir, he does not say that it was the spoken language. In connection with this point, it would be interesting to ascertain what percentage of the population could read and write at all before Malta was ceded to Great Britain. I have recently read an article in a French magazine, in which the author says that in 1836 only 1,768 people out of the whole population could read or write at all.

Dr. MIZZI.—Come si chiama questo giornale?

The LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR.—I forget the title just now, but I can give it to the hon. member.

Mr. AZZOPARDI.—Questo fa la coppia con *Marco Bruno,* un' altra autorità.

The LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR.—Whether this statement is correct or not I am not prepared to say; but if so, the use of Italian as the written language in the time of the Grand Masters only proves to my mind that the Grand Masters did little or nothing for Education.

Dr. MIZZI.—Come stanno facendo gli Inglesi.

The LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR.—This is also proved by the fact that, before the cession of Malta to the British there was practically no elementary education here at all. Mr. Keenan, speaking of the Grand Masters says: "It cannot be said that their thoughts ever turned to the establishment of any system of popular education, or that they made the slightest impression upon the people at large in diverting them from the use of their old Arabic dialect." Further on he says: "In the year 1838 only three elementary schools were supported by the Government—one at Valletta, one at Senglea, and one at Gozo," and referring to the Commission appointed at that time, he says: "the Commissioners described the elementary instruction in Malta as 'small in quantity and bad in quality.'" It was, therefore, natural, I think, that, previous to the last century, the educated classes, who were not very numerous, should have fallen back on some other language as a means of expressing themselves in writing, and it was, perhaps, natural, at that time, that that language should be the Italian language; but that is not an argument for using Italian for ever and ever.

Mr. AZZOPARDI.—Perchè?

The LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR.—Because circumstances alter cases, and there are changes in language as in everything else. The policy of the Government in regard to education is very well known, but it will do no harm to repeat it. I think it is especially desirable that not only the members of this Council but the general public should be well informed as to what the policy of the Government is; because attempts have, from time to time, been made to obscure the question, and, therefore, it is possible that even at the present day a good many people do not really know what that policy is. The policy of the Government is that first of all the Maltese should be taught their mother tongue. After that the Government recognises that, under the peculiar circumstances of Malta, one other language is necessary, and the two languages of most use to the Maltese are English and Italian. The question, which of these languages should be taught, is left to them; in other words the policy of the Government is free choice. The Government will not insist on either of these languages being learned, and still less will it insist on both languages being compulsory. In the opinion of all persons who have had any experience on education, as has been said over and over again, it is positive torture to submit the brains of children of tender years to the strain of learning two foreign languages in addition to their own. I should like to know what would be said in France if all the children were expected to learn English and German in addition to their own language; or in England if all the children were expected to learn German and French as well as their own language. The choice of language depends entirely upon the circumstances of those who are going to learn the language. For those who intend to go to the Lyceum and afterwards to the University, to adopt a professional career, it is quite natural that both languages should be taken up, and for those who wish to take both languages every facility is afforded by the Government. The policy of the Government is absolutely fair. It declines to make either language compulsory, but it gives facilities for learning either or both, and I do not see how any argument can possibly be brought against the fairness of this policy. I believe that some people dislike it on account of its very fairness. In contrast to the policy of the Government we have the declaration of the hon. member for the Tenth District who is the leader of the opposition in this matter. In his letter to me, to which he referred the other day, his first demand is, that free choice shall be entirely done away with. He is quite willing that English should be compulsory provided that Italian should also be made compulsory. That is a very fundamental difference. The Government says: the choice is absolutely free, you may learn either English or Italian or both. The hon. member for the Tenth District says: We won't have anything to do with free choice, we do not mind of English being compulsory, but Italian should be made compulsory at all hazards. I ask any person of a broad mind, which is the fairer of the proposals?

Dr. MIZZI.—Bisogna che conoscano i Maltesi e gli Inglesi.

The LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR.—The Government have been accused of endeavouring to force the English language on the people; but there is no truth whatever in that accusation. Even if it were true, I might retort that those who oppose the Government are desirous of forcing Italian upon people who do not wish to learn Italian. There are certain classes to whom Italian is of no use, first among whom are the labouring classes. A labouring man says: I do not wish my son to learn Italian, he is going to be a labourer, he is going to the Dockyard or some other employment, and of what use is Italian to him Now, would it be fair, I ask, to force that man's son to learn Italian against his will? Another man says: my son does not require English, I am going to send him to the Lyceum and afterwards to the University, I don't wish him to learn English. He can learn Italian only up to a certain point. (*Dr. Mizzi.* Quì casca l'asino.) The hon. member will please hear me out, and he will be rather surprised at what I am going to say. When a boy gets into the 5th Standard in the Elementary Schools, he is, under the present regulations, bound to learn both languages, and, therefore, what the hon. member contends for really does exist in the Elementary Schools, in the Lyceum, and in the University. This is, I admit, hardly in accordance with the doctrine of free choice; and it is a matter for consideration whether it should not be done away with; but at present, as far as I know, there is no intention of making any change. As long as free choice prevails the question of which language will eventually, in years to come, predominate must be left to natural causes. Now, Sir, coming to the Elementary Schools, when a child joins those schools, it is taught Maltese, and that instruction in Maltese is at once accompanied by colloquial instruction either in

English or Italian as the parent of the child may choose. This was not the case until a comparatively recent date. The choice was made after one or two years—I think two in the first instance—but it was found that it was not so very satisfactory, and so parents are allowed to make their choice at once. The consequence is, that while a child is being taught to read in Maltese, it is likewise taught, in either English or Italian, the names of common objects, and such things as a child of tender years can easily grasp. The result of this free choice policy on the part of the Government has been an overwhelming declaration in favour of English. (*Mr. Azzopardi.* No.) I was prepared for a protest from the hon. member; but I have good reasons for asserting that the result of the free choice has been an overwhelming declaration in favour of English. Hon. members who do not agree with me on this subject are unable to controvert the figures which show this overwhelming declaration, and therefore, fall back upon accusations of the Government influencing the choice. They say that these returns have been obtained by the influence of the Government. I do not know how this influence is supposed to be exercised, but in spite of what has been stated by the hon. member for the Third District in his speech on the 30th ultimo, I am prepared to maintain that the choice at the present moment is an absolutely free choice (*Mr. Azzopardi.* No), without any influence whatever. (*Dr. Mizzi.* E impossibile.) If hon. members will allow me to continue without interruption, they will save time. They will have an opportunity of exposing my errors when I have finished. The influence of the Government is supposed to be exercised because these returns are collected by Government officials. How can these returns be otherwise collected? Is the Council prepared to pay a large staff of persons not in Government employ to collect them? On some occasions, it is stated, people have been unable to make up their minds, and have gone to the teacher and said: shall I choose English or Italian for my child? And the teacher is accused of always saying, choose English. I do not admit that this is absolutely correct; but even if in few cases that has been done, it does not affect the greater majority of the decisions in favour of English. I may add that if the people are so weak and so foolish as to allow the teachers to dictate to them what their choice should be, then they are equally open to be dictated to by other persons (*Mr. Azzopardi.* By whom?) At the time, about two or three years ago, when there was great agitation on the language question, there was a very considerable propaganda in favour of the Italian language. I say deliberately that other persons beside the Government have been concerned in influencing the people as to their choice of language. As regards the labouring classes, the children who are not intended to go to the Lyceum and afterwards to the University, generally leave the schools when they are in the 4th Standard, and therefore they do not learn Italian, if they choose English; but those who wish to go to the Lyceum and to the University, as I said before, have to learn both languages, as soon as they get into the 5th Standard, and, although when they come to be examined for admission to the Lyceum, they cannot be compelled to be examined in more than one language, still they find that both languages are compulsory subjects of instruction. Exactly the same thing is found in the University. Although it has been provided by the Order in Council that a candidate for matriculation examination is not obliged to pass in both languages unless he likes, still when he enters the University he finds that both languages are compulsory. The question of translations in the entrance examination for the Lyceum and the matriculation examination was touched upon by my hon. and learned friend the Crown Advocate in his speech at the last meeting. It was found that the rule under which a boy who took up two languages could only count the marks which he made in one of those languages was working unfairly, and that that rule was opposed to the doctrine of free choice. It has been repealed, and now a boy who takes up the two languages counts the marks he makes in both languages. That decision has, I believe, been received with universal satisfaction by all persons who are interested in education. Another matter in which it was stated that the doctrine of free choice was not followed was the examination for the Civil Service, in which the marks for Italian were less than those given for English. That objection has now been removed, and with a trifling difference in dictation the marks for English and Italian are the same. I say this because I wish it to be understood that the Government is doing all in its power to follow the principle of free choice which has been laid down. Coming to the medium of instruction, we find that the medium of instruction in the Elementary Schools, at all events, at first, is Maltese. After the choice of the parents has been

made in the higher standards, the instruction is either in English or Italian. There are only two secondary schools, one for boys at Gozo, in which three subjects are taught in Italian and four in English; and the girls' secondary school in Valletta, in which two subjects are taught in Italian and the remainder in English.

Mr. AZZOPARDI.—How many?

The LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR:—I am not prepared to give the exact number at this moment; but that is a thing which can be easily ascertained from the Director of Education. I may add, however, that, if any change were to be made as regards the latter school, it would be impossible for it to compete for the Oxford Local Examinations, which are such an advantage to the youth of Malta, and in which, I am glad to say, the young people of Malta have been very successful during the last three years. When we come to the Lyceum, we find that eleven teachers use English and seven Italian. Here there is a slight proportion in favour of English. In the University we find that only two professors use the English language and seventeen use Italian. Now, Sir, the hon. and learned member for the Tenth District, in his letter to me, expressed himself as being perfectly satisfied with the state of affairs in the University; but, he says, everything else must be changed, and in the Lyceum and the Elementary Schools there must be rigid equality of the languages. All I can say is, if there is to be rigid equality in the languages in all educational establishments, the same rigid equality must be enforced in the University. The hon. and learned member is, however, quite satisfied with the present state of affairs in the University, where there is a very large preponderance in favour of Italian. If, therefore, he wishes for any change in the Lyceum, he should be prepared to accept a similar change in the University. To sum up the views of the Government, I can see no reason whatever why Italian should be forced on anybody against their will. Free choice is absolutely fair, and no possible argument can be advanced against it; and I have every reason to believe that this is fully recognized by all persons of moderate views both in, and outside, this Council. To turn to the present position, Sir, in his famous speech which hon. members have told me, they know by heart, Mr. Chamberlain made the following statement:—"I say this—it is the first statement I make with regard to the future—at all hazards and against all opposition we are determined to preserve this freedom of choice." On the other hand, the hon. and learned member for the Fourth District, in his letter of the 19th February, commences by demanding the abolition of the choice of languages in all educational departments. In the speech that he made on the 30th March, he says "On this question"—that is, the education question—"we absolutely cannot yield, and we will not yield, not only if the Constitution is taken away from us, but not even if our life is taken way from us." Now, this position seems to me very much like a deadlock, but some one will have to yield. The question is, who? That is a matter for hon. members to decide for themselves; but, in view of the very firm declaration made by Mr. Chamberlain in his speech, which declaration has been acted upon ever since, in the educational policy of the Government, I venture to think it will not be Mr. Chamberlain. The hon. and learned member for the Tenth District, in his letter to me, has said further, that the Imperial Government has no right to interfere with local matters such as the language and public instruction in Malta. I maintain that the Imperial Government has every right to interfere in any matter which affects the public welfare of any British possession, and that the Imperial Government has every right to see that the wishes of the majority of the people are not set aside in favour of the views of a small minority. The hon. and learned member has said that the elected members are going to write a letter to the Secretary of State. On the 30th March they asked for a postponement, because they wished to write to the Secretary of State; since that date hon. members have had no less than three weeks, if they wished to do so.

Dr. MIZZI.—Ho detto quando terminerà la discussione.

The LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR.—If I am wrong in what I have said, I ask the hon. member's pardon; but I will say this, if the hon. members had wished to write a letter to the Secretary of State, there has been plenty of time, since the adjournment of the debate on this question. Unless, however, they have some new arguments to bring forward—(and I have not heard any new argument brought forward) —I cannot see what object can be gained by writing to the Secretary of State, because all the arguments of the elected members have been laid before the Secre-

tary of State, over and over again, not only in writing, but also in person, by the two hon. members who went to London as a deputation from the Elected Members. Sir, hon. members were good enough to say that they wished to hear my views on the subject of education. I have endeavoured to give them my views as well as I am able, and it is now necessary that they should make up their minds, one way or the other, as to what they are going to do with regard to the education estimates. The supplies have been voted for one month only; at the end of this month, the Government will be without supplies to carry on their educational establishments, and it is necessary that they should have time to consider what steps they should take in the event of the elected members deciding to reject these estimates. It has been announced in the paper from which I have already quoted to-day that the estimates will be refused; and if that declaration has any value, any further remarks of mine would, of course, only be a waste of time. I will not, therefore, inflict any further remarks upon the Council.

No. 64.

GOVERNOR SIR C. M. CLARKE to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(Received 2.20 p.m., June 1, 1903.)

TELEGRAM.

[*Answered by No.* 65.]

No reply received to my despatch of April 30.* Am I authorized to issue warrant to meet expenditure for current month?

No. 65.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN to GOVERNOR SIR C. M. CLARKE.

(Sent 4.25 p.m., June 2, 1903.)

TELEGRAM.

Your telegram of 1st of June.† Reply to your despatch of 30th of April,* which will be sent at the end of the week and will enclose new Letters Patent, instructs you to re-submit rejected Education Votes, and, if they are not passed, to proclaim new Letters Patent. I approve of issue of warrant to meet expenditure required for the period, say a fortnight, which will intervene.

No. 66.

GOVERNOR SIR C. M. CLARKE to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(Received June 3, 1903.)

[*Answered by No.* 69.]

SIR, The Palace, Valletta, May 29, 1903.

WITH reference to paragraph 15 of my despatch of the 30th ultimo‡ I have the honour to report that the Elected Members of the Council of Government have refused to vote the sum of £6,000, which was included in the Estimates for the current year, for the refund of import duty on articles of consumption supplied to the Army and Navy (Head XXIII., Miscellaneous Services, Item 53).

2. Owing to the increase in the quantity of articles consumed during the last few years, it was found necessary to increase the sum provided for refund of import duty from £3,000 to £6,000, the vote having been regularly exceeded for several years past. Although it was explained to the Elected Members that the refund

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* No. 60. † No. 64. ‡ No. 59.

of the import duty is merely a paper transaction, and that it is to the advantage of local dealers that the Army and Navy should purchase from them instead of importing their own goods, they persisted in refusing to vote, not only the increase of £3,000, but even the £3,000 which they voted last year, their avowed object being, as I have already explained, to force the Government to charge the amount to the £9,000 reserved under Clause 1 of the Order in Council of the 26th September, 1901.

3. After consulting my Executive Council, I am of opinion that, under the *present* Constitution, the only way to avoid a recurrence of the present difficulty would be to add a Clause to the Letters Patent dealing with refund of import duty in the same way as pensions (Clause XL. of the Letters Patent of 26th December, 1887). I may add, however, that if the new Letters Patent are approved by His Majesty's Government, this Government will have a majority in the Council, and will be able to vote any sums that may be necessary. If funds are required before the meeting of the new Council, a Warrant of Advance can be issued.

I have, &c.,
CHAS. M. CLARKE,
Governor.

No. 67.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN to GOVERNOR SIR C. M. CLARKE.

[*See No.* 70.]

SIR, Downing Street, June 4, 1903.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 30th of April,* reporting that, at a meeting of the Council of Government, held on the 24th of that month, the Elected Members rejected the education estimates for the remaining eleven months of the current year, supplies for one month only having been voted by them at the meeting held on the 30th of March.

2. You also report that the Elected Members have taken this step in consequence of the refusal of the Government to do away with the principle of free choice of language in elementary schools, which has been the leading feature of the policy of the Government in regard to education for some time past.

3. In the speech delivered by me in the House of Commons on the 28th of January, 1902, I made the following statements:—

Firstly, as regards education:

"And I say this—it is the first statement I make with regard to the future—at all hazards and against all opposition, we are determined to preserve this freedom of choice."

Secondly, as regards necessary votes of money:

"I do not for one moment deny their right (*i.e.*, the right of the Elected Members) to criticise the proposals of the Government, and to oppose them in the last resort; but to refuse absolutely necessary votes of money for purposes from which their own constituents would derive the very greatest benefit, in order to defeat the decision of the Government in regard to some other question, is really not in accordance with a Parliamentary Constitution, and I earnestly trust that that course of action will be abandoned. It is not to be contemplated that the state of things which we all regret and which exists at the present time should continue. The Elected Members themselves will be ready to admit that. They cannot expect the Government responsible for this great Imperial fortress to allow this childish game to proceed, and it would be clearly the duty of any Government under these circumstances to preserve the great Imperial interests in their keeping either by going back to the Constitution before 1887, or by such a modification of that Constitution as may be necessary to give the Government a controlling voice in the Administration."

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* No. 60.

4. I gave clear notice in my speech that, should the Elected Members persist in their policy of refusing absolutely necessary votes of money, it would be impossible to continue indefinitely the practice of passing Orders in Council, and that His Majesty's Government would be compelled to revise the constitution of Malta in such a manner as to secure control of the finances by the Imperial Government. It was common knowledge that I proposed to act upon this declaration of policy if the Elected Members did not loyally and reasonably accept the concession which had been made to them in withdrawing those parts of the Proclamations of the 22nd of March, 1899, and 7th October, 1901, which had fixed the 22nd of March, 1919, as the date when the English language would be the official language of the Courts of Law in Malta.

5. In his despatch of the 22nd of February, 1902,* Lord Grenfell transmitted a copy of a Minute which he had signed and directed the Chief Secretary to read and lay on the table of the Council, at the sitting of the 12th of February. In this Minute, after informing the Council of the withdrawal of the parts of the Proclamations referred to in the preceding paragraph by a Proclamation dated the 8th of February, 1902, and quoting the passages from my speech which have been set out in the third paragraph of this despatch, His Lordship stated that the Elected Members must realize from those quotations that if, after the concession contained in the Proclamation of the 8th of February, 1902, the policy of refusing votes of money required to carry on the administration were still pursued, thus making good government impossible, His Majesty's Government would be compelled to modify the Constitution in the sense explained by me. He went on to say that His Majesty's Government had therefore directed that all important votes recently rejected by the Elected Members should be re-submitted, together with the general estimates for the next financial year, and he concluded by impressing on the Elected Members that the Constitution was a precious trust which belonged not to themselves only, but also to all the inhabitants of Malta, and that they were bound to reflect before taking action which would have lasting effects upon their successors and the inhabitants of the Colony.

6. The Elected Members refused to allow the rejected votes to be placed on the order of the day for the next sitting, and resigned in a body on the 15th of February, alleging that their action was due to the Governor's Minute.

7. The members who had resigned were re-elected without opposition, and on the 9th of April a deputation from them waited upon the Governor, and made representations which amounted to a request for the re-opening of all the important questions on which His Majesty's Government had given a final decision. I requested the Governor to inform the deputation that I had carefully considered their representations, but that the policy of the Government would be pursued, and that no attempt to re-open the questions referred to by them could be entertained.

8. At a meeting of the Council, which was held on the 30th of April, 1902, the Elected Members refused for the second time to complete the necessary provision for education during the financial year 1902-3. On the first occasion, in order to avoid the technical difficulty which would have arisen had the vote been reduced by the provision for 11 months, the whole vote was by leave withdrawn, and a vote for one month proposed and passed. On the second occasion, as the rules did not allow of votes being proposed by Elected Members, provision for ten months was rejected by a reduction of the vote and supplies granted only to the 31st of May, 1902. Several other votes connected with education and school sanitation were also rejected.

9. On both these occasions the Elected Members threatened that, unless the Italian language were made a compulsory subject in the schools, whether the parents of the children desired that it should be taught or not, and unless the Elected Members were allowed to control it, they would refuse to pass any further vote for education.

10. Contrary to the most explicit declarations made by the Elected Members at previous meetings, their leader, Dr. Mizzi, at the sitting of the Council held on the 23rd of May, 1902, moved the reduction of the education vote for the remaining

* No. 11.

ten months of the financial year 1902-3, so as to grant supplies for the six months from June to November, but on this occasion Dr. Mizzi made it a point to declare that he did not intend to give up the campaign in favour of the compulsory use of the Italian language, but that he wished to await the result of the Education Ordinance which was passed and read a third time on the 23rd of May by the elected majority, notwithstanding that the Chief Secretary stated in the Council that the Ordinance would not be assented to.

11. On the re-assembling of the Council in November last, the Elected Members voted the provision for the remainder of the financial year, but only for the purpose of postponing the discussion of the language question until the general estimates for 1903-4 were brought forward.

12. The action taken by the Elected Members with regard to the education votes when the general estimates for 1903-4 were under discussion has already been stated in the first paragraph of this despatch. They also made the reductions in other votes, referred to in your despatch of the 30th of April,* with the object of compelling the Government to abandon the position which it has taken up in order to maintain the free choice of the Maltese population on this question.

13. In view of the facts which have been stated above, I am forced to conclude that the Elected Members have no intention of abandoning a course of action which must destroy all prospect of good administration, and which, as they have already been fully warned, His Majesty's Government will not tolerate.

14. As I pointed out in my despatch of the 19th of June, 1900,† the total population of the islands is about 180,000, while the number of electors is only about 10,000, of whom only a comparatively small number appear to vote or take an interest in politics. The Elected Members are not, therefore, entitled, in my opinion, to take advantage of their position to deprive the majority of the inhabitants of Malta of that freedom in the choice of language for the education of their children which His Majesty's Government have announced their intention of preserving at all hazards and against all opposition.

15. I have approved of your issuing a warrant of advance for the sum required to carry on the service of the Education Departments for the month of May, as it is most undesirable that the Government Educational Establishments should be closed in consequence of the action of the Elected Members, but this is only a provisional arrangement, and it is necessary to place matters on a regular and permanent basis as soon as possible.

16. You should, therefore, take the first opportunity of re-submitting to the Council the education votes which have been rejected by the Elected Members, and, if they are not passed, you should proclaim, with as little delay as possible, the new Letters Patent‡ enclosed in this despatch.

17. If the Elected Members reject the votes, I request that, when proclaiming the Letters Patent, you will cause this despatch to be published.

I have, &c.,
J. CHAMBERLAIN.

No. 68.

GOVERNOR SIR C. M. CLARKE to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(Received June 13, 1903.)

[*Answered by No.* 73.]

SIR, The Palace, Valletta, June 8, 1903.

I HAVE the honour to report that certain articles required for the Hygiene Laboratory in the University were ordered from the Crown Agents in December last, but were not received in the Colony until after the expiration of the financial year, when the vote had lapsed.

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* No. 59. † *See* page 63 of [Cd. 715], July 1901. ‡ Appendix II.

2. To cover the cost of these articles (£41 10s.) a Supplementary Estimate was brought before the Council on the 25th ultimo, which was, however, rejected by the Elected Members on the ground that it was connected with the Education Question.

3. Under these circumstances, I would request your authority to charge the sum of £41 10s. to the amount of £9,000 reserved under paragraph 2 of Clause 1 of the "Malta Revenue and General Purposes Order in Council, 1901."

I have, &c.,
CHAS. M. CLARKE,
Governor.

No. 69.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN to GOVERNOR SIR C. M. CLARKE.

SIR, Downing Street, June 16, 1903.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 30th of April last,* transmitting a copy of the draft estimates for 1903-4, and to inform you that I approve of the amounts disallowed by the Elected Members being charged to the sum of £9,000 reserved under the Order in Council of the 26th of September, 1901.

2. I have also to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 7th of May,† on the subject of the proposed grant of a transport allowance to Mr. Macfarlane, the Government Veterinary Surgeon. I am of opinion that it would be best in the first instance to put the vote for the amount required before the Elected Members, but, in the event of their rejecting it, I shall be prepared to approve of your charging the sum of £308 2s. 7d. on this account to the £9,000 reserved under the Order in Council.

3. I have also received your despatch of the 29th of May,‡ informing me of the refusal of the Elected Members to vote the sum of £6,000 which was included in the estimates for the refund of import duty on articles of consumption supplied to the Army and Navy.

I have, &c.,
J. CHAMBERLAIN.

No. 70.

GOVERNOR SIR C. M. CLARKE to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(Sent noon, received 12.18 p.m., June 18, 1903.)

TELEGRAM.

[*Answered by No.* 71.]

June 18. Suspension of Standing Orders was yesterday moved by Lieutenant-Governor in order to again submit the Education Estimates. Elected Members opposed motion, which was thrown out. Their leader stated, in opposing the motion, that until they got their rights they would vote no money for Education. As soon as possible, probably Monday, I shall proclaim new Letters Patent to come into force 1st of July.

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* No. 59. † No. 61. ‡ No. 66.

No. 71.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN to GOVERNOR SIR C. M. CLARKE.

(Sent Noon, June 20, 1903.)

TELEGRAM.

[*See No.* 72.]

June 20. Your telegram of June 18.* I consider that you should not defer bringing the Letters Patent into force until July 1, but that, unless you see serious objection, they should be brought into force as soon as proclaimed.

No. 72.

GOVERNOR SIR C. M. CLARKE to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(Received 5.40 p.m., June 22, 1903.)

TELEGRAM.

Referring to your telegram of 20th June,† Letters Patent, Royal Instructions, proclaimed to-day coming into operation 25th June: impossible to complete arrangements earlier.

No. 73.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN to GOVERNOR SIR C. M. CLARKE.

SIR, Downing Street, June 22, 1903.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 8th of June,‡ and to inform you that I approve of your charging to the amount of £9,000 provided under the Malta Revenue and General Purposes Order in Council, 1901, the sum of £41 10s., being the cost of certain articles required for the Hygiene Laboratory in the University, which were ordered from the Crown Agents for the Colonies in December last, but were not received until after the close of the financial year.

I have, &c.,
J. CHAMBERLAIN.

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* No. 70. † No. 71. ‡ No. 68.

APPENDIX I.

At the Court at St. James's, the 26th day of September, 1901.

PRESENT:

THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

LORD GEORGE HAMILTON. MR. ST. JOHN BRODRICK.
MR. CHAMBERLAIN. SIR CHARLES SCOTT.

Whereas by Clause XLIV. of certain Letters Patent under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, bearing date at Westminster the 12th day of December, 1887, full right, power, and authority was reserved to His Majesty the King, his heirs and successors, to make, by and with the advice of His Privy Council, all such Laws for the peace, order, and good government of the Island of Malta and its dependencies as to His Majesty, his heirs and successors, might seem necessary;

And whereas it is expedient to make provision for carrying out urgent works which are wholly or in part of Imperial importance for water supply, drainage, school accommodation, and other needs of the Island of Malta and its dependencies, and to take steps in order that effect may be given in due course to the Proclamation of the Governor of Malta of the 22nd day of March, 1899, declaring that the English language shall be substituted for the Italian language as the language of the Courts of Law on the expiration of fifteen years from the date thereof:

Now, therefore, His Majesty, by virtue and in exercise of the powers in this behalf by the said Letters Patent or otherwise in His Majesty vested, is pleased, by and with the advice of His Privy Council, to order, and it is hereby ordered, as follows:—

1. The following sums shall, without further appropriation or authority, be paid for upon a warrant under the hand of the Governor for the following works, viz.:—

	£
Schools, not exceeding	35,000
Drainage, not exceeding	300,000
Waterworks, not exceeding	20,000
Improvement Central Hospital, not exceeding ...	5,000
Hospital for female lepers, not exceeding	8,000
Criminal lunatic ward, not exceeding	2,500
Roads, not exceeding	10,000
	£380,500

The Governor shall be empowered to issue warrants under his hand, chargeable to the Public Revenue of Malta, for expenditure, not otherwise provided for, for amounts not exceeding £9,000 in any one year, in respect of services sanctioned by one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State.

2. The Governor of Malta shall, for a period of thirteen years, cause to be levied and collected the additional and revised taxes and duties set out in the four Schedules to this Order in Council, in accordance with the provisions therein contained.

The Schedules annexed hereto, with the provisions contained in, and the notes to such Schedules, shall be deemed to be part of this Order in Council in the same manner as if they had been contained in the body thereof.

And the Governor shall have power to make by Proclamation, from time to time, such Regulations as he may deem necessary for the collection of such revenues, and to adjust the collection of revenue by weight or measurement, and otherwise to

reconcile the collection of new and old duties and taxes with any previous Law, Regulation or custom, and any such Regulations shall have effect as if they formed part of this Order.

3. It shall not be lawful to appoint in Malta to any Judicial or Magisterial office any person who is not a graduate of the University of Malta.

4. The parents or guardians of any student who is a candidate for admission to the Lyceum or University shall have the option of determining whether that student shall be examined in English or in Italian, or in both English and Italian, and no student shall be disqualified from obtaining any scholastic or University preferment or degree, or from obtaining admission to the University or Lyceum, or promotion from a lower to a higher class therein if he satisfies the examiners in either English or Italian, and the Governor may, with respect to the University and Lyceum, from time to time make such Regulations as to the manner of imparting instruction or otherwise, as may be necessary for carrying out the provisions of this Order, and the provisions contained in Section 5 of Ordinance 12 of 1898 shall not be applicable, provided that in the Faculty of Theology instruction shall be given only through the medium of Latin or Italian.

5. The President, Vice-President, or Presiding Member shall at sittings of the Council of Government have power, whenever the authority of the Chair is disregarded, to suspend, without debate or question put, any member continuing to disregard such authority after being named. Such suspension shall be for a time not exceeding the period of three sittings for the first offence, and of not less than three, but not more than ten sittings for a further offence in the same Session. During the period of suspension a suspended member shall be excluded from the Council Chamber.

6. There shall be for the Island of Malta an Assistant to the Crown Advocate, who shall perform such duties and be paid such a salary or remuneration as may from time to time be assigned to him by the Governor.

The amount of such salary or remuneration shall be from time to time charged by warrants under the hand of the Governor against the public revenue of Malta.

7. Any Law relating to any matters dealt with under the provisions of this Order in Council shall be read subject to this Order and to any Regulations made under this Order: and any Law which is repugnant to this Order, or to any Regulations made thereunder, shall to the extent of such repugnancy be void and inoperative.

8. This Order shall come into operation upon the Proclamation thereof in Malta: together with the provisions in the Schedules thereof, except as regards the third Schedule and the sections of the fourth Schedule numbered 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11, having reference to beer manufactured in Malta, which sections and third Schedule shall come into operation from the day which shall be fixed by the Governor of Malta by a notice published in the Government Gazette, or on the 1st day of January, 1902, which ever day shall be earlier.

9. In this Order in Council the word "Malta" means the Island of Malta and its dependencies; and the word "Governor" means the Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Island of Malta and its dependencies, and includes any person for the time being lawfully administering the Government of Malta and its dependencies.

10. This Order may be cited for all purposes as "The Malta Revenue and General Purposes Order in Council, 1901."

A. W. FITZROY.

The First Schedule.

Wines and Spirits.

Per cent. of mixture known as Proof Spirit in 100 parts at 62° F.	Per cent. of Alcohol in 100 parts of dutiable Liquid at 62° F.	Import Duty per Maltese barrel.	Import Duty per Imperial Gallon.	Store rent per barrel per six months or less in advance.
		£ s. d.	s. d.	d.
Wine.				
26·25	15	0 3 0	0 3·789	2
28·00	16	0 7 11	0 10·000	3
29·75	17	0 12 10	1 4·211	3
31·50	18	0 17 10	1 10·526	3
33·25	19	1 2 9	2 4·737	3
35·00	20	1 7 8	2 10·947	3
36·75	21	1 12 8	3 5·263	3
38·50	22	1 17 7	3 11·473	3
40·25	23	2 2 6	4 5·684	3
42·00 to 100·00	24 to 57	2 7 6	5 0·000	3
Additional duty on—				
Sparkling wine in bottle ..		3 0		
Still wine in bottle		1 0		
Spirits or Strong Waters.				
100·00	57·2	2 7 6	5 0·000	4
101·50	58	2 8 2	5 0·947	4
103·25	59	2 9 0	5 2·000	4
105·00	60	2 9 10	5 3·052	4
106·75	61	2 10 8	5 4·000	4
108·50	62	2 11 6	5 5·052	4
110·25	63	2 12 4	5 6·105	4
112·00	64	2 13 2	5 7·157	4
113·75	65	2 14 0	5 8·210	4
115·50	66	2 14 10	5 9·263	4
117·25	67	2 15 8	5 10·315	4
119·00	68	2 16 6	5 11·368	4
120·75	69	2 17 4	6 0·421	4
122·50	70	2 18 2	6 1·473	4
Spirits or Strong Waters—*cont.*				
124·25	71	2 19 0	6 2·526	4
126·00	72	2 19 10	6 3·579	4
127·75	73	3 0 8	6 4·526	4
129·50	74	3 1 6	6 5·579	4
131·25	75	3 2 4	6 6·737	4
133·00	76	3 3 2	6 7·789	4
134·75	77	3 4 0	6 8·842	4
136·50	78	3 4 10	6 9·894	4
138·25	79	3 5 8	6 10·947	4
140·00	80	3 6 6	7 0·000	4
141·75	81	3 7 4	7 1·052	4
143·50	82	3 8 2	7 2·105	4
145·25	83	3 9 0	7 3·158	4
147·00	84	3 9 10	7 4·211	4
148·75	85	3 10 8	7 5·263	4
150·50	86	3 11 6	7 6·316	4
152·25	87	3 12 4	7 7·368	4
154·00	88	3 13 2	7 8·421	4
155·75	89	3 14 0	7 9·473	4
157·50	90	3 14 10	7 10·526	4
159·25	91	3 15 8	7 11·579	4
161·00	92	3 16 6	8 0·631	4
162·75	93	3 17 4	8 1·684	4
164·50	94	3 18 2	8 2·737	4
166·25	95	3 19 0	8 3·789	4
168·00	96	3 19 10	8 4·842	4
169·75	97	4 0 8	8 5·893	4
171·50	98	4 1 6	8 6·947	4
173·25	99	4 2 4	8 8·000	4
175·00	100	4 3 2	8 9·052	4

Spirits and strong waters (whether perfumed or not) mixed with any ingredient or ingredients, and although thereby coming under some other designation, except varnish, shall nevertheless be deemed to be spirits and be subject to duty as such. The word wine includes lees of wines or mixtures including wine.

Fractions of a degree not exceeding $\frac{2}{10}$ shall not be reckoned; those exceeding $\frac{2}{10}$ shall be reckoned as a degree Duty shall be levied at the rate per Maltese barrel.

The Second Schedule.

	Import Duty.			Store Rent on articles lodged in Bond.	
	Per Gallon.	Per lb.	Per Rotolo. *	For a period not exceeding one year.	Payable half-yearly in advance.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*d.*	
Beer containing 1 per centum of proof spirit or more than 1 per cent. ...	0 4·50	—	—	1	Per barrel.
Beer containing not more than 1 per centum of proof spirit	0 1	—	—	1	"
Petroleum	0 1	—	—	—	¼*d.* per case of 8 gallons or under.
Sugar (refined)...	—	0 0·1428	0 0·25	2	175 lbs.
Sugar (raw)	—	0 0·0342	0 0·06	2	
Tobacco—					
Manufactured, viz.:					
Cigars or cigarettes	—	1 0	1 9·00	—	3*d.* per 100 boxes of 100 cigars each.
Cavendish or Negro head ...	—	1 2	2 0·50		
Other manufactured tobacco ...	—	0 8	1 2·00		
Snuff containing more than 13 lbs. of moisture in every 100 lbs. weight thereof ...	—	0 7	1 0·25		
Snuff not containing more than 13 lbs. of moisture in every 100 lbs. weight thereof ...	—	0 9	1 3·75	—	6*d.* per 100 lbs.
Unmanufactured, viz.:					
American	—	0 2	0 3·50		
Levant and other unmanufactured tobacco of all other places—					
For every 1 lb. weight thereof...	—	0 2	0 3·50		

Beer shall be gauged and duty charged on the actual quantity imported; and an allowance of 5 per cent. shall be made for waste liquid.

* Duty shall be charged at the rate per Rotolo.

The Third Schedule.

Stamp Duties.

The following duties shall be payable, viz.:—

Notarial Acts.

	£	s.	d.
1. On every notarial act subject to registration under Article 38 of Ordinance No. 5 of 1855	0	1	0
On every other notarial act	0	0	6

2. The stamp duties mentioned in the preceding Article are to be denoted by the Notary who receives the act by adhesive stamps.

3. Copies or extracts of Notarial Acts shall bear an adhesive stamp or stamps of so many half-pence as there are written pages of not more than 120 words or parts of pages in the Act.

4. Every notary who omits to stamp, or insufficiently stamps, any deed received by him, shall be subject to a fine not exceeding £5.

5. It shall be the duty of the Court of Revision of Notarial Acts of Malta to report to the Crown Advocate thereof any non-compliance by a notary with the provision contained in the preceding Articles.

Bills of Exchange.

	£	s.	d.
6. Bills of exchange payable on demand or at sight, or on presentation, or within three days after date or sight	0	0	1
Bills of exchange of any other kind whatsoever (except a bank note) and promissory notes of any kind whatsoever (except a bank note), drawn or expressed to be payable, or actually paid or indorsed, or in any manner negotiated in Malta, or drawn or expressed to be payable out of Malta, when actually paid or indorsed or in any manner negotiated in Malta.			
Where the amount of value for which the bill or note is drawn or made does not exceed £5	0	0	1
Exceeds £5 but does not exceed £25	0	0	2
„ £25 „ £50	0	0	3
„ £50 „ £100	0	0	6
„ £100			
For every £50 and also for any part of £50 of such amount of value...	0	0	3

7. For the purposes of this Schedule the expression "bill of exchange" includes a draft, order, cheque, and letter of credit, and any document or writing (except a bank note) entitling or purporting to entitle any person, whether named therein or not, to payment by any other person of, or to draw upon any other person for, any sum of money; and the expression "bill of exchange payable on demand" includes—

(*a.*) An order for the payment of any sum of money by a bill of exchange or promissory note, or for the delivery of any bill of exchange or promissory note in satisfaction of any sum of money, or for the payment of any sum of money out of any particular fund which may or may not be available, or upon any conditon or contingency which may or may not be performed or happen; and

(*b.*) An order for the payment of any sum of money weekly, monthly, or at any other stated periods, and also an order for the payment by any person at any time after the date thereof of any sum of money, and sent or delivered by the person making the same to the person by whom the payment is to be made, and not to the person to whom the payment is to be made or to any person on his behalf.

8. For the purpose of this Schedule the expression "promissory note" includes any document or writing (except a bank note) containing a promise to pay any sum of money.

A note promising the payment of any sum of money out of any particular fund which may or may not be available, or upon any condition or contingency which may or may not be performed or happen, is to be deemed a promissory note for that sum of money.

9. The fixed duty of 1d. on a bill of exchange, payable on demand, or at sight, or on presentation, or within three days, after date or sight, and the *ad valorem* duties on any other bill of exchange shall be denoted by an adhesive stamp, which, when the bill is drawn in Malta, is to be cancelled by the person by whom the bill is signed before he delivers it out of his hands, custody, or power.

10. Every person into whose hands any bill of exchange or promissory note drawn or made out of Malta comes in Malta before it is stamped shall, before he presents for payment, or indorses, transfers, or in any manner negotiates, or pays the bill or note, affixed thereto a proper adhesive stamp or other adhesive stamps of sufficient amount, and cancel every stamp so affixed thereto.

Provided as follows:

(*a.*) If at the time when any such bill or note comes into the hands of any *bonâ fide* holder there is affixed thereto an adhesive stamp effectually cancelled, the stamp shall, so far as relates to the holder, be deemed to be duly cancelled, although it may not appear to have been affixed or cancelled by the proper person.

(*b.*) If at the time when any such bill or note comes into the hands of any *bonâ fide* holder there is affixed thereto an adhesive stamp not duly cancelled, it shall be competent for the holder to cancel the stamp as if he were the person by whom it was affixed, and upon his so doing the bill or note shall be deemed duly stamped, and as valid and available as if the stamp had been cancelled by the person by whom it was affixed.

(*c.*) But neither of the foregoing provisions is to relieve any person from any fine or penalty incurred by him for not cancelling an adhesive stamp.

11. Every person who issues, indorses, transfers, negotiates, presents for payment, or pays any bill of exchange or promissory note liable to duty and not being duly stamped, shall incur a fine of from £2 to £10, and the person who takes or receives from any other person any such bill or note either in payment or as a security, or by purchase or otherwise, shall not be entitled to recover thereon or to make the same available for any purpose whatever.

Provided that if any bill of exchange payable on demand, or at sight, or on presentation, or within three days after presentation or sight, is presented for payment unstamped, the person to whom it is presented may affix thereto an adhesive stamp of 1d., and cancel the same as if he had been the drawer of the bill, and may thereupon pay the sum in the bill mentioned, and charge the duty in account against the person by whom the bill was drawn, or deduct the duty from the said sum, and the bill is, in so far as the duty is concerned, to be deemed valid and available.

But the foregoing provision is not to relieve any person from any fine or penalty incurred by him in relation to such bill.

12. When a bill of exchange is drawn in a set according to the custom of merchants, and one of the set is duly stamped, the other or others of the set shall, unless issued or in some manner negotiated apart from the stamped bill, be exempt from duty; and upon proof of the loss or destruction of a duly stamped bill forming part of a set, any other bill of the set which has not been issued or in any manner negotiated apart from the lost or destroyed bill may, although unstamped, be admitted in evidence to prove the contents of the lost or destroyed bill.

13. The following shall be exempted from the stamp duty:—

(1.) Bill drawn in Malta by any person under the authority of the Admiralty upon and payable by the Accountant-General of the Navy, or by the District Paymaster at Malta.

(2.) Bill drawn in Malta (according to a form prescribed by His Majesty's Orders by any persons duly authorised to draw the same) upon and payable out of any public account for any pay or allowance of the Army or Auxiliary Forces, or for any other expenditure connected therewith.

Bills of Lading.

	£	s.	d.
14. Bill of lading of or for any goods, merchandize, or effects ...	0	0	3

For the purpose of this Schedule the expression "bill of lading" includes also any document or writing entitling or purporting to entitle any person, whether named therein or not, to receive from the Captain, owner, or agent of a ship or vessel any goods.

15. A bill of lading is not to be stamped after the execution thereof.

16. The provision of Clause 12 of this Schedule shall also be applicable to a bill of lading when it is drawn in a set according to the custom of merchants in Malta.

17. Every person who makes or executes any bill of lading not duly stamped shall incur a fine of from £2 to £50.

Charter Party.

	£	s.	d.
18. Charter Party	0	0	6

19. The duty on a charter party shall be denoted by an adhesive stamp or stamps, which is or are to be cancelled by the person by whom the instrument is last executed, or by whose execution it is completed as a binding contract.

20. Where a charter party is first executed out of Malta without being duly stamped, any party thereto may, within ten days after it has been first received in Malta, and before it has been executed by any person in Malta, affix thereto an adhesive stamp denoting the duty chargeable thereon, and at the same time cancel such adhesive stamp, and the instrument when so stamped shall be deemed duly stamped.

21. Every person who executes any charter party not duly stamped shall incur a fine of from £2 to £50.

Policy of Insurance.

22.—(1.) Policy of Sea Insurance.

	£	s.	d.
Where the premium or consideration does not exceed the rate of 2s. 6d. per centum of the sum insured	0	0	1
In any other case—			
(*a.*) For or upon any voyage—			
In respect of every full sum of £100, and also any fractional part of £100 thereby insured	0	0	3
(*b.*) For time—			
In respect of every full sum of £100, and also any fractional part of £100 thereby insured—			
Where the insurance shall be made for any time not exceeding six months	0	0	3
Where the insurance shall be made for any time not exceeding twelve months ...	0	0	6

23. For the purpose of this Schedule the expression "Policy of Sea Insurance" means any sea insurance, including reassurance, and the agreement by which a person, in consideration of any sum of money paid or to be paid for additional freight or otherwise, takes upon himself any risk attending goods, merchandize, or property of any description whatsoever while on board of any ship or vessel, or engages to indemnify the owner of any such goods, merchandize, or property from any risk, loss, or damage.

24.—(2.) Policy of Life Insurance.

	£	s.	d.
Where the sum insured does not exceed £10	0	0	1
Exceeds £10, but does not exceed £25	0	0	3
„ £25, „ „ £500—			
For every full sum of £50, and also for any fractional part of £50 of the amount insured	0	0	6
Exceeds £500, but does not exceed £1,000—			
For every full sum of £100, and also for any fractional part of £100 of the amount insured	0	1	0
Exceeds £1,000—			
For every full sum of £1,000, and also for any fractional part of £1,000 of the amount insured	0	10	0
25.—(3.) Policy of Insurance against Accident and Policy for any other Insurance	0	0	1

26. Where any sea insurance is made for a voyage and also for time, or to extend to or cover any time beyond thirty days after the ship shall have arrived at her destination, and been there moored at anchor, the policy is to be charged with duty as a policy for time.

27. A policy of sea insurance shall, for the purpose of production in evidence, be an instrument which may legally be stamped after the execution thereof, and the penalty payable by law on stamping the same shall be the sum of from £5 to £100.

28. If any person—

(*a.*) Becomes an assurer upon any sea insurance, or enters into any contract for sea insurance, or directly or indirectly receives or contracts or takes credit in account for any premium or consideration for any sea insurance, or knowingly takes upon himself any risk, or renders himself liable to pay, or pays, any sum of money upon any loss, peril, or contingency relative to any sea insurance, unless the insurance is expressed in a policy of sea insurance duly stamped, or

(*b.*) Makes or effects, or knowingly procures to be made or effected, any sea insurance, or directly or indirectly gives or pays, or renders himself liable to pay, any premium or consideration for any sea insurance, or enters into any contract for sea insurance, unless the insurance is expressed in a policy of sea insurance duly stamped, or

(*c.*) Is concerned in any fraudulent contrivance or device, or is guilty of any wilful act, neglect, or omission, with intent to evade the duties payable on policies of sea insurance, or whereby the duties may be evaded,

He shall for every such offence incur a fine of from £5 to £100.

29. Every broker, agent, or other person negotiating or transacting any sea insurance contrary to the true intent and meaning of this Schedule, or writing any policy of sea insurance upon material not duly stamped, shall for every such offence incur a fine of from £5 to £100, and shall not have any legal claim to any charge for brokerage, commission, or agency, or for any money expended or paid by him with reference to the insurance, and any money paid to him in respect of any such charge shall be deemed to be paid without consideration, and shall remain the property of his employer.

30. If any person makes or issues, or causes to be made or issued, any document purporting to be a copy of a policy of sea insurance, and there is not at the time of the making or issue in existence a policy duly stamped whereof the said document is a copy, he shall for such offence, in addition to any other fine or penalty to which he may be liable, incur a fine of from £5 to £100.

31. The duties above mentioned upon a policy of insurance shall be denoted by an adhesive stamp, which is to be cancelled by the person by whom the policy is first executed.

32. Every person who after the date from which this Schedule shall come into force—

(1.) Receives, or takes credit for, any premium or consideration for any insurance other than a sea insurance, and does not, within one month after receiving or taking credit for the premium or consideration, make out and execute a duly stamped policy of insurance; or

(2.) Makes, executes, or delivers out, or pays or allows in account, or agrees to pay or allow in account, any money upon or in respect of any policy other than a policy of sea insurance which is not duly stamped,

Shall incur a fine not exceeding £20.

33. The provisions contained in Articles 24 to 32 of this Schedule shall not be applicable to policies of insurance other than sea insurance issued before the said Schedule shall have come into force.

Receipts.

34. On every receipt, 1d.

35. The duty upon a receipt shall be denoted by adhesive stamps, which are to be cancelled by the person by whom the receipt is given before he delivers it out of his hand.

36. A receipt given without being stamped may be stamped upon the terms following; that is to say:—

(1.) Within fourteen days after it has been given, on payment of the duty and a penalty of £1.

(2.) After fourteen days, but within one month after it has been given, on payment of the duty and a penalty of £2.

37. Any person who gives a receipt liable to duty and not duly stamped, or in any case, where a receipt would be liable to duty, refuses to give a receipt duly stamped, or upon a payment to an amount exceeding £1 gives a receipt for a sum not exceeding £1, or separates or divides the amount paid with intent to evade the duty, shall incur a fine of from £2 to £10.

38. The following shall be exempted from the stamp duty:—

(1.) Receipt given for or upon payments of money not exceeding £1.

(2.) Receipt given for money deposited in any bank or with any banker in Malta to be accounted for and expressed to be received of the person to whom the same is to be accounted for.

(3.) Acknowledgment by any banker of the receipt of any bill of exchange or promissory note for the purpose of being presented for acceptance or payment.

(4.) Receipt given for and upon the payment of any duties or for any sums due to the Government of Malta.

(5.) Receipt given by any agent for money imprested to him on account of the pay of the army.

(6.) Receipt given by any officer, seaman, marine, or soldier, or his representatives, for or on account of any wages, pay, or pension due for the Admiralty or Army Pay Office.

(7.) Receipt written upon a bill of exchange or promissory note, duly stamped, or upon a bill drawn in Malta by any person under the authority of the Admiralty upon and payable by the Accountant-General of the Navy or the District Paymaster in Malta.

(8.) Receipt, endorsed or otherwise written upon, or contained in any instrument liable to stamp duty and duly stamped, acknowledging the receipt of the consideration money therein expressed, on the receipt of any principal money, interests, or annuity thereby secured or therein mentioned.

(9.) Receipt given for any allowance by way of drawback or otherwise upon the exportation of any goods or merchandize from Malta.

(10.) Receipt given for the return of any duty of customs upon a certificate of over-entry.

Instruments or written Documents containing an Agreement and not being a Notarial Act.

	£	s.	d.
39. On any such instrument or agreement	0	0	3

40. The duty upon any such agreement shall be denoted by an adhesive stamp, which is to cancelled by the person by whom the agreement is first executed.

41. Every such instrument (not being a promissory note or bill of exchange) given upon the occasion of the deposit of any share warrant or stock certificate to bearer, or share certificate of any Government or Colony, not being the Government

of Malta, or any security for money transferable by delivery, by way of security for any loan, shall be deemed to be an agreement, and shall be charged with duty accordingly.

42. Every such instrument (not being a promissory note or bill of exchange) making redeemable or qualifying a duly stamped transfer, intended as a security, of any registered stock or marketable security shall be deemed to be an agreement, and shall be charged with duty accordingly.

43. A release or discharge of any of the said instruments shall not be chargeable with any duty.

44. The following shall be exempted from the stamp duty:—

(1.) Instruments of apprenticeship, bonds, contracts, and agreements entered entered into in Malta for or relating to the service therein, or in the United Kingdom or in any of His Majesty's Colonies or possessions abroad of any person as an artificer, clerk, domestic servant, craftsman, mechanic, gardener, servant in husbandry, or labourer.

(2.) Agreement or memorandum the matter whereof is not of the value of £2.

(3.) Agreement or memorandum for the hire of any labourer, artificer, manufacturer or menial servant.

(4.) Agreement or memorandum made between the master and mariners of any ship or boat for wages on any voyage between Malta and Gozo or coastwise from port or bay to port or bay in the said Islands.

Appraisements or Valuations.

	£	s.	d.
45. Where the amount of the appraisement or valuation does not exceed £5	0	0	1
Exceeds £5 and does not exceed £10	0	0	2
„ £10 „ „ £20	0	0	4
„ £20 „ „ £30	0	0	6
„ £30 „ „ £40	0	0	8
„ £40 „ „ £50	0	0	10
„ £50 „ „ £100	0	1	8
„ £100 „ „ £200	0	3	4
„ £200 „ „ £500	0	5	0
„ £500	0	6	8

46. Every appraiser, by whom an appraisement or valuation chargeable with stamp duty is made, shall, within fourteen days after the making thereof, write out the same, in words and figures, showing the full amount thereof, upon duly stamped material, and if he neglects or omits so to do, or in any other manner discloses the amount of the appraisement or valuation, he shall incur a fine of from £2 to £50.

47. Every person who receives from any appraiser, or pays for the making of, any such appraisement or valuation, shall, unless the same be written out and stamped as aforesaid, incur a fine of from £2 to £20.

48. The following shall be exempted from the stamp duty:—

Appraisement or valuation made for, and for the information of one party only, and not being in any manner obligatory as between parties either by agreement or operation in law.

Sales and other Transfers.

49. The following stamp duties shall be charged on every instrument [including bills of sale and notarial acts], and every decree or order of any Court or other lawful authority whereby any immovable property or any ship or vessel upon the sale thereof is transferred to or vested in a purchaser, viz.:—

	£	s.	d.
Where the amount or value of the consideration for the sale does not exceed £5	0	0	2
Exceeds £5 and does not exceed £10	0	0	4
„ £10 „ „ £15	0	0	6

				£	s.	d.
Exceeds	£15	and does not exceed	£20	0	0	8
„	£20	„ „	£25	0	0	10
„	£25	„ „	£50	0	1	8
„	£50	„ „	£75	0	2	6
„	£75	„ „	£100	0	3	4
„	£100	„ „	£125	0	4	2
„	£125	„ „	£150	0	5	0
„	£150	„ „	£175	0	5	10
„	£175	„ „	£200	0	6	8
„	£200	„ „	£225	0	7	6
„	£225	„ „	£250	0	8	4
„	£250	„ „	£275	0	9	2
„	£275	„ „	£300	0	10	0
„	£300.					
For every £50, and also for any fractional part of £50 of such amount of value				0	1	8

50. The provision of the preceding Article shall also apply to the transfer of immovable property by deeds of division, donation, dowry, or any other assignment for any object whatsoever.

51. There shall be charged on the first transfer of every marketable security made or issued by or on behalf of any State or Government, except the Government of Malta, or by any Municipal Body, Corporation, or body of any country or Colony, being a security transferable by delivery, which is after this Schedule shall have come into force, assigned, transferred, or in any other manner negotiated, in Malta, and on every share warrant or stock certificate to bearer by means of which any share or stock of any Company or body of persons formed or established out of Malta, is, after this Schedule shall have come into force, assigned, transferred, or in any manner negotiated, in Malta, a stamp duty of 6d. for every £10, and also for any fractional part of £10, in the case of a marketable security of the money thereby secured, and in the case of a share warrant or stock certificate of the nominal value of the share or stock to which the warrant or certificate relates.

52. There shall be charged on the first transfer of every instrument to bearer, not being a share warrant or stock certificate to bearer charged under the foregoing provision, by means of which any share or stock of any Company or body of persons formed or established out of Malta, shall be assigned, transferred, or in any manner negotiated, in Malta, a stamp duty of 2d. for every £25, and also for every fractional part of £25 of the nominal value of the share or stock.

53. Every person who, in Malta, assigns, transfers, or in any manner negotiates, or is concerned as broker or agent in assigning, transferring, or in any manner negotiating, any instrument which is chargeable with duty under the two preceding provisions, and is not duly stamped, or any share or stock by means of such an instrument, shall incur a fine of from £2 to £20.

54. For the purpose of the provisions of the preceding five Articles, an instrument used for the object of assigning, transferring, or in any manner negotiating the right to any marketable security, share, or stock, shall, if delivery thereof is by usage treated as sufficient for the purpose of a sale on the market, whether that delivery constitutes a legal assignment, transfer, or negotiation or not, be deemed a marketable security transferable by delivery, or an instrument to bearer, as the case may be, and the delivery thereof an assignment, transfer, or negotiation.

55. There shall be charged on every agreement or contract note (including the note sent by a broker or agent to his principal advising him of the sale or purchase of any stock or marketable security) for or relating to the sale or purchase of any stock or marketable security a stamp duty of—

	£	s.	d.
When the value is of £5 and upwards	0	0	1
When the value is of £100 or upwards	0	0	6

56. Where the agreement or contract note referred to in the preceding paragraph refers to the sale or purchase of more than one description of stock or marketable security, the agreement or note shall be deemed to be as many agreements or contract notes as there are descriptions of stock or security sold or purchased.

57. The duty mentioned in Article 55 is to be denoted by an adhesive stamp or by adhesive stamps, and every adhesive stamp in the agreement or contract note therein referred to is to be cancelled by the person by whom the agreement or note is executed.

58. Any person who effects any sale or purchase of any stock or marketable security, of the value of £5 or upwards, as a broker or agent, shall within twenty-four hours make and execute an agreement or contract note and transmit the same to his principal, and, in default of so doing, shall incur a fine of from £2 to £20.

59. Every person who makes or executes any agreement or contract note chargeable with duty under the provision of Article 55, and not being duly stamped, shall incur a fine of from £5 to £20.

60. The following duties shall be charged on any contract for a long lease (emphyteusis) of any immovable property, in respect of the yearly rent, namely :—

——	If the term does not exceed 60 years.	If the term exceeds 60 years, but does not exceed 100.	If the term exceeds 100 years.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Does not exceed £5 per annum	0 0 6	0 3 0	0 6 0
Exceeds £5 and does not exceed £10	0 1 0	0 6 0	0 12 0
Exceeds £10 and does not exceed £15	0 1 6	0 9 0	0 18 0
Exceeds £15 and does not exceed £20	0 2 0	0 12 0	1 4 0
Exceeds £20 and does not exceed £25	0 2 6	0 15 0	1 10 0
Exceeds £25 and does not exceed £50	0 5 0	1 10 0	3 0 0
Exceeds £50 and does not exceed £75	0 7 6	2 5 0	4 10 0
Exceeds £75 and does not exceed £100	0 10 0	3 0 0	6 0 0
For every sum of £50, and also for any fractional part of £50 thereof	0 5 0	1 10 0	3 0 0

61. The duty chargeable on the several transfers mentioned in Articles 49 and 60 of this section shall be either denoted by adhesive stamps by the purchaser or transferee or shall be paid by him to the Receiver-General before the publication of the contract; in the latter case, the receipt of such payment shall be annexed to the deed of transfer.

When any of the transfers referred to in Articles 49 to 62 are made by a notarial deed, the duties mentioned in any of those Articles shall be denoted in addition to those mentioned in Article 1.

62. Where the duty has been duly paid in conformity with the foregoing provision, the contract by which the transfer is made to the purchaser or any other person on his behalf, or by his direction, shall not be chargeable with any of the duties mentioned in Articles 49 and 60, and the Notary who receives the act shall denote the payment of the *ad valorem* duty upon the contract.

Provided that the *ad valorem* duty paid upon any such contract shall be returned by the Receiver-General in case the contract be afterwards rescinded or annulled.

63. The provision of Article 4 shall be applicable to the Notary who receives any contract of sale or other transfer contemplated in Articles 49 to 62 not stamped or insufficiently stamped, or who in the case referred to in Article 61, omits to annex the receipt therein-mentioned to the contract.

In case of any non-compliance by a Notary with the provisions contained in the Articles quoted in the preceding paragraph, the provision of Article 5 shall also be applicable.

Licences.

64. On every licence not otherwise provided for in any existing law, 1d.

Miscellaneous and General Provisions.

65. No copy of any Notarial Act or of any instrument executed in Malta, or relating, wheresoever executed, to any property situate, or to any matter or thing done or to be done in Malta, and no bill of exchange, promissory note, bill of lading, charter party, policy of insurance, receipt or any other agreement, appraisement or valuation, or licence, shall, except in criminal proceedings, be given or admitted in evidence before any Court of Justice of Malta, or before any arbitrator or referee, unless it is duly stamped according to law or is exempted from the stamp duty by virtue of any law.

Provided, however, that when the instrument or other document, unstamped or insufficiently stamped, is one which may legally be stamped after the execution thereof, it may, on payment, to the Registrar of the Court before whom it is produced, and in the other cases to the Receiver-General, of the amount of the unpaid duty and the penalty payable on stamping the same, and of a further sum of £1, be received in evidence, saving all just exceptions on other grounds.

66. Any document, the duty upon which is required by law to be denoted by an adhesive stamp, is not to be deemed duly stamped unless the person required by law to affix the adhesive stamp cancels the same by writing on or across the stamp his name or initials, or the name or initials of his firm, together with the true date of his so writing, or otherwise effectively cancels the stamp and renders the same incapable of being used for any other document, or unless it is otherwise proved that the stamp appearing on the instrument was affixed thereto at the proper time.

When two or more adhesive stamps are used to denote the stamp duty upon a document, each or every stamp is to be cancelled in the manner aforesaid.

67. Every person who is required by the preceding article to cancel an adhesive stamp, and who wilfully neglects or refuses to do so, in the manner aforesaid, shall be liable to a fine not exceeding £10.

68. No action for the recovery of penalties incurred under the preceding clauses shall be instituted after the expiration of five years from the day on which the contravention shall have been committed. But notwithstanding such lapse of time, an unstamped or insufficiently stamped document shall not be admissible in evidence, unless the party desiring to produce the document shall have paid the penalty incurred, together with the amount of the stamps which the document was by this Schedule required to bear.

69. Whoever shall—

(1.) Fraudulently remove or cause to be removed from any instrument any adhesive stamp, or affix to any other instrument, or use for any postal purpose any adhesive stamp which has been so removed, with intent that the stamp may be used again; or who shall

(2.) Sell or offer for sale, or utter any adhesive stamp which has been so removed, or utter any instrument having thereon an adhesive stamp which has been, to his knowledge, so removed as aforesaid, shall be condemned by the Court of Judicial Police of the said Island to a fine of £5 to £20.

70. Whosoever shall forge a die or stamp; shall make an impression upon any material with a forged die; shall sell, expose for sale, or utter, or use forged stamps; and whosoever shall knowingly and without lawful excuse (the proof of which shall lie on the person accused) be found in possession of forged dies or stamps, shall be punished with hard labour from one to four years.

71. Whoever shall without lawful authority or excuse (the proof of which shall lie on the person accused) purchase, or receive, or knowingly have in his custody any plate, die, dandy roller mould, or other implement peculiarly used in the manufacture of a stamp or of the paper reserved by the Government for the impression of stamps, shall be liable to the punishments provided by the Criminal Laws of Malta for contraventions.

72. The stamp duty is to be denoted by adhesive stamps, also in the cases when it is not so expressly stated in the foregoing articles of this Schedule.

Provided, however, that it shall be lawful for the Governor to make, by a Notice published in the Government "Gazette," regulations allowing the use of impressed stamps.

73. The manufacture and sale of stamps is reserved to the Government of Malta. Their shape and value shall be fixed by the Governor.

74. The Crown Advocate shall take legal steps in His Majesty's Civil Court for recovering such fines as may become due under the provisions of this Schedule.

75. In this Schedule, unless the context otherwise requires—

The expression "instrument" includes every written document;

The expression "money" includes all sums expressed in British or in any foreign or Colonial currency;

The expression "marketable security" means a security of such a description as to be capable of being sold in the stock market in the United Kingdom or in Malta.

The expressions "executed" and "execution" with reference to documents not being notarial acts, mean "signed" and "signature."

The Fourth Schedule.

Customs Regulations.

1. The Collector of Customs shall levy the duties and store rent specified in the First and Second Schedules herewith; and any contrary provision contained in any other Law or Regulation is hereby repealed.

2. No duty paid on any article by virtue of the present Order in Council shall be returned to the owner of such article on the exportation thereof.

Tobacco.

3. Whoever is in possession of unmanufactured tobacco shall, within a month from the date in which the provisions of this section shall come into force, give a report to the Collector of Customs of the quality and quantity of the tobacco in his possession.

4. The Collector of Customs, as well as the officers charged with the duty of receiving the report mentioned in the preceding paragraph, shall have the power to enter any place for the purpose of verifying the correctness of such reports.

5. If any unmanufactured tobacco shall be found in the possession of any person after the expiration of the term mentioned in Article 3, without its having been reported to the Collector of Customs in the manner established in that Article, the same shall be forfeited, and such person shall forfeit either double the value thereof or the penalty of £20 at the election of the Collector of Customs.

Beer.

6. It shall be lawful for the head of the Government to grant a licence for the manufacture of beer or to license existing breweries.

7. Any person to whom a concession may have been granted shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding £100, and not less than £5 for any act which tends to defraud the revenue.

8. It shall be lawful for the head of the Government to make Regulations for the better protection of the duty payable on beer introduced for local consumption; any person responsible for the infringement of such Regulations shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding £50 and not less than £2.

9. All beer shall be manufactured in bond, and all dutiable materials imported, and products thereof, shall be kept in bond in the bonded brewery, or be taken direct from the brewery to bonded stores approved by and under the custody of the Government, under such Regulations as the head of the Government may enact. Such beer shall, on being taken out of bond for local consumption, be subject to the payment of the same duties as are paid on imported beer.

10. When dutiable materials required for the manufacture of beer shall be introduced into the brewery a drawback will be refunded to the owner, corresponding to the duty on such materials, according to such Regulations as may from time to time be established by the head of the Government.

11. In case of exportation of beer manufactured in these islands direct from the brewery, and under the custody of the Government, no duty shall be levied on the beer which shall have been so exported.

General Provisions.

12. The provisions contained in the First Schedule, as regards wine, in the Second Schedule, and in this Schedule shall not be applicable to wine and to the merchandize, referred to in the Second Schedule, imported before the day on which this Order shall come into operation.

13. The Crown Advocate shall take legal steps in His Majesty's Civil Court for recovering such fines as may have become due under the provisions of the First, Second, and this Schedule.

APPENDIX II.

MALTA.

LETTERS PATENT providing for the Administration of the Government of the Island of Malta and its Dependencies.

Dated 3rd June, 1903.

Edward the Seventh, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and of the British Dominions beyond the Seas King, Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India: To all to whom these presents shall come, Greeting.

Recites Letters Patent. 25th June, 1878. 20th June, 1884. 12th December, 1887. 19th March, 1888. 14th February, 1889. 19th August, 1891. 6th February, 1893. 14th February, 1894. 16th December, 1898. 26th September, 1902.

Whereas by certain Letters Patent bearing date respectively the Twenty-fifth day of June 1878, the Twentieth day of June 1884, the Twelfth day of December 1887, the Nineteenth day of March 1888, the Fourteenth day of February 1889, the Nineteenth day of August 1891, the Sixth day of February 1893, the Fourteenth day of February 1894, the Sixteenth day of December 1898, and the Twenty-sixth day of September 1902, provision was made for the administration of the Government of Our Island of Malta and its Dependencies as in the said Letters Patent is described and set forth:

And whereas We are minded to make further provision for the administration of the Government of Our said Island of Malta and its Dependencies and it is expedient that the aforesaid Letters Patent should be revoked:

Now know ye that We have thought fit to revoke and determine and by these Presents do revoke and determine but without prejudice to anything lawfully done thereunder the said recited Letters Patent, and every clause, article, and thing therein contained, and further know ye, that We, of Our special grace, certain

knowledge, and mere motion have thought fit to constitute, order, and declare, and do by these Presents constitute, order, and declare as follows:—

Office of Governor constituted.

1. There shall be a Governor and Commander-in-Chief (hereinafter called "Our said Governor") in and over Our said Island, and the person who shall fill the said Office of Governor shall be from time to time appointed by Commission under Our Sign Manual and Signet. And We do hereby authorise and command Our said Governor to do and execute, in due manner, all things that shall belong to his said command, and to the trust We have reposed in him, according to the several powers and authorities granted or appointed him by virtue of these present Letters Patent and of such Commission as may be issued to him under Our Sign Manual and Signet, and to such other powers and authorities, being still in force, as may have been heretofore given to any of his predecessors in his said command, and according to such Instructions as may from time to time be given to him, under Our Sign Manual and Signet, or by Our Order in Our Privy Council, or by Us through one of Our Principal Secretaries of State, and according to such Laws as are or shall hereafter be in force in Our said Island.

Governor's powers and authorities.

Office of Lieutenant-Governor and Chief Secretary to Government constituted.

2. There shall be a Lieutenant-Governor and Chief Secretary to Government in and over Our said Island, and appointments to the said Office shall be made by Commission under Our Sign Manual and Signet.

The Lieutenant-Governor and Chief Secretary to Government shall do and execute during Our pleasure all things belonging to his office according to such Instructions as may from time to time be given to him by Us, under Our Sign Manual and Signet, or through one of Our Principal Secretaries of State.

Public Seal.

3. And We do hereby authorise and empower Our said Governor to keep and use the Public Seal of Our said Island for sealing all things whatsoever that shall pass the said Public Seal.

Grant of lands.

Proviso. Land grants to be made in conformity with the Laws.

4. And We do further authorise and empower Our said Governor, in Our name and on Our behalf, to make and execute under the said Seal grants and dispositions of any lands or other immovable property which may be lawfully granted and disposed of by Us within Our said Island, either in conformity with Instructions under our Sign Manual and Signet, or in conformity with such Regulations as are now in force or may be made by Our said Governor in that behalf and duly published in Our said Island.

Grant of pardons.

5. And We do further authorise and empower Our said Governor, as he shall see occasion, in Our name and on Our behalf, when any crime or offence has been committed within Our said Island, or for which the offender may be tried therein, to grant a pardon to any accomplice in such crime or offence, who shall give such information as shall lead to the conviction of the principal offender or of any one of such offenders if more than one; and further, to grant to any offender convicted of any crime in any Court, or before any Judge, Justice, or Magistrate, within Our said Island, a pardon, either free or subject to lawful conditions, or any respite of the execution of the sentence of any such offender, for such period as to Our said Governor may seem fit, and to remit any fines, penalties, or forfeitures, which may become due and payable to Us. Provided always, that Our said Governor shall in no case except when the offence has been of a political nature unaccompanied by any other grave crime, make it a condition of any pardon or remission of sentence that the offender shall be banished from or shall absent himself from Our said Island.

Remission of fines.

Proviso. Banishment from Colony prohibited.

Exception. Political offences.

Suspension from office.

6. And We do further authorise and empower Our said Governor, so far as We lawfully may, upon sufficient cause to him appearing, to suspend from the exercise of his office within Our said Island, any person exercising any office within Our said Island, under or by virtue of any Commission or Warrant granted, or to be granted, by Us in Our name, or under Our authority, which suspension shall continue and have effect only until Our pleasure therein shall be signified to Our said Governor.

Succession to the Government.

Administrator.

7. In the event of the death, incapacity, removal, or absence of Our said Governor out of Our said Island, all and every the powers and authorities in Our said Letters Patent granted to him shall, until Our further pleasure is signified, be vested in such person or persons as may be appointed by Us under Our Sign Manual and Signet to administer the Government of Our said Island, and in case there

shall be no person or persons within Our said Island so appointed by Us, then in the Senior Officer for the time being in command of Our regular troops in Our said Island. Senior Military Officer.

In the event of Our said Governor having received permission from Us, or through one of Our Principal Secretaries of State, to be temporarily absent from the said Island, he may, by an instrument under the Public Seal of the Island, appoint any person to be his Deputy, and in that capacity to exercise, during such absence or until Our pleasure be signified, such of the powers vested in the Governor as the Governor shall think fit to assign to him. Governor may appoint a Deputy to act during his temporary absence.

8. From and after the coming into operation of these Our Letters Patent the present Council of Government in Malta shall cease to exist, and there shall be in and for Malta a Council of Government constituted as hereinafter mentioned. Constitution of Council of Government.

9. The Council shall consist of the Governor as President, a Vice-President, the person lawfully discharging the duties of Lieutenant-Governor and Chief Secretary to Government, nine Official Members, and eight Elected Members. Composition of Council.

10. The Vice-President of the Council of Government shall be appointed by Us through one of Our Principal Secretaries of State, and shall hold his office during Our pleasure. Vice-President: appointment and tenure.

11. The Official Members of the Council shall be the person for the time being lawfully discharging the duties of the office of Crown Advocate, and such eight other persons for the time being holding public offices in Malta, and being members of the Executive Council as We may from time to time appoint by Warrants under Our Sign Manual and Signet, or as the Governor may from time to time by instrument under the Public Seal of Malta appoint, subject to Our disallowance or confirmation through one of Our Principal Secretaries of State. The Official Members of the Council shall hold their places therein during Our pleasure. Official Members.

12. The Governor may by an instrument under the Public Seal of Malta suspend any Official Member of the Council from the exercise of his functions as a Member of the Council. Every such suspension shall be forthwith reported by the Governor to one of Our Principal Secretaries of State, and shall remain in force unless and until it shall be either removed by the Governor by an instrument under the said Seal, or disallowed by Us through one of Our Principal Secretaries of State. Suspension of Official Members.

13. Whenever any Official Member of the Council shall be suspended as aforesaid, or shall be declared by the Governor by an instrument under the said Seal to be incapable of exercising his functions as such Member, or shall be temporarily absent from Malta, the Governor may by an instrument under the said Seal appoint some other person holding a public office in Malta to be provisionally an Official Member of the Council in the place of the Member so suspended or declared incapable or absent. Provisional appointmen of Official Members.

Every such provisional appointment may be disallowed by Us through one of Our Principal Secretaries of State, or may be revoked by the Governor by any such instrument as aforesaid.

Every person so provisionally appointed shall be to all intents and purposes an Official Member of the Council until his appointment shall be disallowed, or revoked, or superseded by the permanent appointment of an Official Member of the Council, or until the person in whose place he has been appointed shall be relieved from suspension, or declared by the Governor by any such instrument as aforesaid to be capable of exercising the functions of a Member of the Council, or shall have returned to Malta, as the case may be.

14. The Island of Malta and its Dependencies shall be divided into eight electoral districts for the purpose of the election of Members of the Council of Government. Division of Malta and its Dependencies into eight electoral districts.

15. The aforesaid eight electoral districts shall be those described in the First Schedule hereto annexed, and each of the said eight electoral districts shall consist of the places therein mentioned, and the limits of the places mentioned in the said Schedule, where not otherwise defined therein, shall be the respective parochial limits. Electoral districts defined in Schedule.

Each district to return one Member, and each elector to have one vote.

16. Each district shall be represented by one Member, and each elector registered in each district shall have one vote at each election of a Member for that district.

Elector to be registered in only one district, except under Clause 23.

17. No person shall be registered as an elector in more than one district, except in the case provided for in Clause 23 of these Letters Patent.

Qualification of electors.

18. Every male person shall be entitled to be registered as an elector, and when registered to vote at the election of a Member of the Council, who is qualified as follows, that is to say:—Has attained the age of twenty-one years, and is a British subject by birth or naturalization, and either

(1) is qualified by law in Malta and its Dependencies to serve as a common juror, whether he is or is not exempted by age, office, or profession from the obligation of serving as a juror; or

(2) is paying and has paid, for six months next before registration, rent for immovable property in Malta at the rate of at least six pounds by the year; or

(3) is, in his own right or in right of his wife, in receipt from immovable property in Malta of a clear income of at least six pounds in the year, and has been entitled to such income for six months next before registration.

Provided that no person shall be registered as an elector, or be entitled to vote for the election of a Member of the Council, who shall be subject to any of the disqualifications for being elected a Member of the Council, numbered (1), (3), and (4) in Clause 28 of these Letters Patent.

Registration of electors qualified as common jurors.

19. A person who is qualified to be registered as an elector by reason of his being qualified to serve as a common juror shall be entitled to be registered in the district in which he resides, or, if he resides in more than one district, in any one of those districts at his option.

Registration of elector qualified by paying rent or by receipt of income from property.

20. A person shall be entitled to be registered as an elector in any district in which he possesses a complete qualification, either by paying rent for, or by the receipt of income from, property situated in that district.

Registration of elector where qualification made up from property in several districts.

21. A person who is qualified to be registered as an elector by paying rent for, or by receipt of income from, property situated in two or more districts, but does not possess a complete qualification in any one district, shall be entitled to be registered in any one of those districts at his option.

Registration of elector qualified for registration in two or more districts.

22. A person who, but for the provisions of Clause 17 of these Letters Patent, would have been entitled to be registered in two or more districts, shall be entitled to be registered in any *one* of those districts at his option.

Registration of elector who has complete qualification as owner of property.

23. A person possessing in each of two or more districts a complete qualification in respect of income derived from immovable property situated in that district, of which he or his wife is the owner, shall be entitled to be registered and to vote in each of the districts in which he possesses that qualification; but he cannot be registered or vote in any other district in respect of any other kind of qualification.

Persons ineligible for registration as electors in certain conditions.

24. No person shall be qualified to be registered as an elector in respect of the payment of rent for immovable property unless he is the occupier of such property; and no person shall be qualified to be registered as an elector in respect of the receipt of income derived from immovable property for which he pays rent, and which he does not possess on emphyteusis.

Governor to make regulations for registration, &c.

25. Our Governor in Our said Island and its Dependencies, or any person for the time being lawfully administering the Government of Our said Island and its Dependencies, shall, as soon as possible, after the promulgation of these Letters Patent, establish by proclamation such regulations, not inconsistent with these

Letters Patent, as he may think necessary for defining and delimiting the boundaries of electoral districts and for regulating the registration of electors, and the election of Members of the Council of Government and such regulations shall take effect and have the force of law in Malta and its Dependencies immediately on the proclamation thereof; and the provisions of any Letters Patent, Orders in Council, or Ordinances repugnant to the provisions of any such regulations shall be read subject to such regulations, and shall to the extent of such repugnancy be void and inoperative; but any such regulations may be repealed or altered by any Ordinance or Ordinances hereafter to be enacted by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Council of Government, or by any Letters Patent, or Orders in Council which may thereafter be issued or passed.

Qualifications of elected Members.

26. No person shall be capable of being elected a Member of the Council or, having been elected, shall sit or vote in the Council, unless he—

(1) is qualified to be registered as an elector, and either

(2) possesses and has possessed for at least twelve months next before the election, in his own right or in right of his wife, immovable property in Malta of the clear value of one hundred pounds, above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same; or

(3) rents and has rented for at least twelve months next before the election immovable property in Malta of the yearly value of ten pounds; or

(4) being the occupant of any room or lodging in Malta, has paid continuously for at least twelve months next before the election for his board and lodging at the rate of at least forty pounds yearly, or for his lodging only at the rate of at least ten pounds yearly.

No person drawing salary from Malta funds eligible for election to Council of Government or if elected shall not sit or vote in Council. Any Member of Council incurring this disqualification, his seat thereupon to become vacant.

27. No person who is in receipt of salary payable out of the public revenue of Malta shall be capable of being elected a Member of the said Council of Government or having been elected shall sit or vote in the said Council. If any elected Member of the said Council of Government shall, after his election, become subject to the disqualification aforesaid, his seat in the said Council shall thereupon become vacant.

Disqualification of elected Members.

28. No person shall be capable of being elected a Member of the Council, or having been elected shall sit or vote in the Council, who

(1) has been sentenced by any competent Court for any crime punishable by death, hard labour for any period, imprisonment for a period exceeding one year, or for any other crime against the peace or honour of families referred to in Chapter II. of Title VI. of the first part of the Second Book of the Criminal Laws of Malta, sentences for manslaughter or other crimes against the person excusable for any of the causes contemplated in Article 233 and Nos. 1 and 2 of Article 236 of the same Laws being excepted, and has not received a free pardon from Us for the crime for which he has been so sentenced;

(2) is an uncertificated bankrupt;

(3) has within five years before the election received charitable relief in Malta from any public source; or

(4) is of unsound mind.

Disqualification of Ecclesiastical persons.

29. No ecclesiastical person shall be capable of being elected a Member of the Council, or having been elected shall sit or vote in the Council, and any Member of the Council who shall become an ecclesiastical person shall thereupon be deemed to have vacated his seat in the Council.

Penalty for unqualified persons sitting or voting as Member of Council.

30. Every person who, having been returned as a Member of the Council, but not having been at the time of his election qualified to be elected, shall sit or vote in the Council, shall for every day on which he shall sit or vote in the Council, and every person who shall sit or vote in the Council after his seat shall have become vacant shall for every day on which he shall sit or vote after his seat shall have become vacant, be liable to a penalty not exceeding Fifty Pounds, to be recovered by action in His Majesty's Civil Court by any person who shall sue for the same.

Questions as to qualification of Members or vacating of seats to be determined by Court of Appeal.

31. All questions which may arise as to the right of any person to be or remain an elected Member of the Council shall be referred to and decided by Our Court of Appeal in Malta.

Seat of elected Member: how vacated

32. If any elected Member of the Council shall, by writing under his hand addressed to the Governor, resign his seat in the Council, or shall be absent, except on the ground of illness, from the sittings of the Council for a period of two calendar months during the session of the Council without the leave of the Council, or shall for the period of one month be a party to any contract with the Government of Malta, for or on account of the public service, or shall become subject to any of the disqualifications specified in these Letters Patent, or shall take any oath or make any declaration of allegiance to any Foreign State or Power, his seat in the Council shall thereupon become vacant.

Writ for election to supply vacancy.

Whenever the seat of an elected Member has become vacant, the Governor shall, as soon as possible, issue a writ for the election of a new Member in the place of the Member whose seat has become vacant.

Oath to be taken by Members of Council.

33. No Member of the Council shall sit or vote therein until he shall have taken and subscribed the following oath before the Governor, or some person authorised by the Governor to administer such oath:—

"I, *A.B.*, do sincerely promise and swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Edward, His heirs and successors, according to law.

"So help me God."

Provided that every person authorised by law to make an affirmation instead of taking an oath may make such affirmation instead of taking the said oath.

Power to make laws.

34. It shall be lawful for the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Council, to make laws for the peace, order, and good government of Malta. Such laws shall be styled "Ordinances enacted by the Governor of Malta, with the advice and consent of the Council of Government thereof." But We hereby reserve to Ourselves, Our heirs and successors, power to disallow any such Ordinance, either in whole or in part, and to amend any such Ordinance in such manner as may be necessary or expedient, such disallowance or amendment to be signified to the Governor through one of Our Principal Secretaries of State.

Subject to disallowance or amendment.

Council may require the aid of the Judges.

35. And We do further direct that the said Council may require the aid of any one or more of the Judges for Our said Island and its Dependencies, in the discussion of any law.

Assent to Ordinances.

36. No Ordinance to be enacted by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Council shall take effect until either the Governor shall have assented thereto in Our name and on Our behalf, and shall have signed the same in token of such assent, or until We shall have given Our assent thereto by Our Order in Our Privy Council or through one of Our Principal Secretaries of State.

Presentation of Ordinances to the Governor for his assent.

37. And We do further direct that before any Ordinance shall be finally passed by Our said Governor, with the advice of the said Council, the same shall be taken to be presented to Our said Governor for his assent on Our behalf, and that the said Governor shall declare according to his discretion, but subject nevertheless to the provisions contained in these Our Letters Patent, and to such Instructions as may from time to time be given in that behalf by Us, Our heirs and successors, that he assents to such Ordinance, or that he refuses his assent thereto, or that he reserves such Ordinance for the signification of Our pleasure thereupon.

Disallowance of Ordinances.

38. When the Governor assents to an Ordinance he shall, by the first convenient opportunity, transmit to one of Our Principal Secretaries of State a transcript of the Ordinance authenticated under the Public Seal of Malta and by his own signature. If at any time within two years from the date of the Governor's assent to any Ordinance We shall notify to the Governor, through one of Our Principal Secretaries of State, Our disallowance of such Ordinance, or any part thereof, the Ordinance, or the part thereof so disallowed shall become null and void from and after the day on which the Governor shall signify such disallowance by proclamation.

Time from which Ordinances are to take effect.

39. And We do declare Our pleasure to be, that all Ordinances passed by Our said Governor, with the advice and consent of the said Council, shall take effect, and

come into operation as law, from and after the date at which it shall be enacted by Our said Governor, with the consent of the said Council, that such Ordinances are to take effect and come into operation as law.

Reservations of Ordinance.

40. The Governor may reserve any Ordinance passed by the Council for the signification of Our pleasure thereon, and shall so reserve any such Ordinance by which any provision of these Letters Patent is repealed, altered, or amended, or which is in any way repugnant to or inconsistent with any of the provisions of these Our Letters Patent. An Ordinance so reserved shall take effect so soon as We shall have given Our assent thereto, either by Our Order in Our Privy Council, or through one of Our Principal Secretaries of State.

Enrolment of Ordinances.

41. And We do enjoin and require Our said Governor to transmit to the Chief Justice and President of the Court of Appeal of Our said Island of Malta, to be enrolled in the said Court, a transcript, duly authenticated in the manner before mentioned, of every Ordinance to be passed by Our said Governor, with the advice and consent of the said Council, and Our said Governor is also from time to time to transmit to the said Chief Justice and President of the Court of Appeal, to be enrolled in the said Court, a certificate under his hand and seal, of the effect of every Order which he may have received from Us for confirming or disallowing, in the whole or in part, or for amending the provisions of any such Ordinance, which certificate shall in like manner be enrolled in the said Court, and there remain on record to the intent that the Judges of the said Court may without further or other proof take cognisance of all Ordinances to be made and promulgated for the peace, order, and good government of the said Island and its Dependencies: Provided always, and We do hereby declare, that the Judges of the said Court have not, and shall not have, any right or authority to prevent or delay the enrolment of any such Ordinances, and that the validity thereof doth not, and shall not, depend upon such enrolment.

Governor or Vice-President, or Member to be appointed by Governor, to preside.

42. The Governor, if present, or, in the absence of the Governor, the Vice-President, or, in the absence of the Governor and Vice-President, such Member of the Council of Government as the Governor shall from time to time appoint, shall preside at the meetings of the said Council. Neither the Governor nor the Vice-President, nor any Member for the time being presiding at a meeting of the Council, shall have either an original or a casting vote.

Voting.

43. All questions arising at meetings of the Council shall be determined by a majority of the votes of all the Members present, except the Governor and the Vice-President or other presiding Member, and in case of an equality of votes the question shall be determined in the negative. Provided that the Governor may disallow any vote or resolution of the Council, and any vote or resolution so disallowed shall have no force or effect.

Initiation of money votes.

44. The Council shall not pass and the Governor shall not assent to any Ordinance, vote, or resolution, the object or effect of which is to impose any tax or to dispose of or charge any part of the public revenue, or to revoke, alter, or vary any such tax, disposition or charge, unless such Ordinance, vote, or resolution shall have been proposed by the direction or with the express sanction of the Governor.

Initiation of other votes, Ordinances, &c.

45. Every Member of the Council may, upon due notice being given, propose any Ordinance or resolution which does not impose any tax or dispose of or charge any part of the public revenue, or revoke, alter, or vary any such tax, disposition, or charge.

Council may transact business notwithstanding vacancies. Quorum.

46. The Council shall not be disqualified for the transaction of business by reason of any vacancy or vacancies among the Members, but no business except that of adjournment shall be transacted unless there shall be present at least six Members besides the Governor or other presiding Member.

Governor and Council to conform to Royal Instructions.

47. Subject to the provisions of these Letters Patent the Governor and the Council shall, in the transaction of the business of the Council, and the passing of, assenting to, and enrolment of Ordinances, conform as nearly as may be to the directions as to the transaction of the business of, and the passing of, assenting to, and enrolment of laws enacted by the Council of Government constituted by any Letters Patent heretofore in force, contained in any Instructions under Our

Sign Manual and Signet heretofore addressed to the Governor, which shall not for the time being have been revoked, and to such further instructions under our Sign Manual and Signet as may be hereafter addressed to the Governor in that behalf, but no Ordinance enacted by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Council, shall be invalid by reason that in the enactment thereof any such instructions were not duly observed.

Power to make Standing Orders.

48. Subject to the provisions of these Letters Patent any such Instructions as aforesaid, the Council may make Standing Rules and Orders for the regulation of its own proceedings, and until any such Rules and Orders shall be made, and subject to any Rules and Orders to be so made, the Standing Rules and Orders of the Council of Government now in force shall remain in force and apply, so far as the same are applicable thereto, to the Council established by these Letters Patent.

Sessions of Council.

49. The Sessions of the Council shall be held at such times and places as the Governor shall from time to time by proclamation appoint. There shall be at least one Session of the Council in every year, and there shall not be an interval of twelve months between the last sitting of one Session and the first sitting of the next following Session. The first Session shall be held within six months from the promulgation of these Letters Patent.

Prorogation and Dissolution of Council.

50. The Governor may at any time, by proclamation, prorogue or dissolve the Council.

Duration of Council.

51. The Governor shall dissolve the Council at the expiration of three years from the date of the return of the first writs at the last preceding general election, if it shall not have been sooner dissolved.

Times of first and subsequent general elections.

52. A general election shall be held at such time within three months after every dissolution of the Council, as the Governor shall by proclamation appoint.

Civil list.

53. Sums of money, not exceeding the several sums specified in the Second Schedule hereto annexed, shall in every year be charged on and paid out of the revenue of Malta, under the several heads and for the services specified in the said Schedule. The said sums shall be paid by the Receiver-General upon such warrants as shall be directed to him from time to time under the hand of the Governor.

Pensions to be charged on public revenue.

54. All pensions and gratuities which have been or may be hereafter granted by the Governor, with the sanction of one of Our Principal Secretaries of State, in accordance with the rules which now regulate the grant of pensions and gratuities in Malta, or with any law or rules which shall be for the time being in force regulating the grant of such pensions or gratuities, to persons who have retired or shall retire from the public service of Malta or whose offices in Malta have been or shall be abolished, shall be charged upon and paid out of the public revenue of Malta.

Constitution of Executive Council.

55. There shall be in and for Malta an Executive Council, consisting of the Military Officer for the time being in command of Our regular forces in Malta not being in the administration of the Government, the persons for the time being lawfully discharging the duties of the respective offices of Lieutenant-Governor and Chief Secretary to Government and of Crown Advocate, and such other persons holding offices within our Island of Malta as are now Members of the said Executive Council, or as We may from time to time appoint by Warrants under Our Sign Manual and Signet, or as the Governor may from time to time, by Instrument under the Public Seal of Malta, appoint, subject to Our disallowance or confirmation through one of Our Principal Secretaries of State.

All Members of the Executive Council shall hold their places therein during Our pleasure.

Officers and others to obey and assist the Governor.

56. And We do hereby require and command all Our Officers and Ministers, Civil and Military, and all other the inhabitants of Our said Island, to be obedient, aiding, and assisting unto Our said Governor, or, in the event of his death, incapacity, removal, or absence, to such person or persons as may from time to time, under the provisions of these Our Letters Patent, administer the Government of Our said Island.

Interpretation.

57. In these Letters Patent, unless the context otherwise requires,—

The word "Malta" means the Island of Malta and its Dependencies.

The word " Governor " includes any person for the time being lawfully administering the Government of Malta.

The words " the Council " mean the Council of Government hereby constituted.

The expression " Ecclesiastical person " means any person being a member of any religious order in the Roman Catholic or any other Church, or being in Holy Orders (but not in minor orders) in any such Church, or being a minister of any religious persuasion.

The word " month " means calendar month.

Reservation of power to revoke, alter, or amend Letters Patent and to legislate by Order in Council.

58. We hereby reserve to Ourselves, Our heirs and successors, Our undoubted right, power, and authority to make, by and with the advice of Our Privy Council, all such laws for the peace, order, and good government of Malta as to Us, Our heirs and successors, may seem necessary, and all such laws shall be of the same force and effect in Malta as if these Letters Patent had not been made.

Power reserved to His Majesty to revoke, alter or amend the present Letters Patent.

59. And We do hereby reserve to Ourselves, Our heirs and successors, full power and authority from time to time to revoke, alter, or amend these Our Letters Patent as to Us or Them shall seem meet.

Publication of Letters Patent.

60. And We do further direct and enjoin that these Our Letters Patent shall be proclaimed at such place or places within Our said Island, as Our said Governor shall think fit and shall come into operation on a date to be fixed by such proclamation.

In witness whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent. Witness Ourself at Westminster the Third day of June in the Third year of Our Reign.

By Warrant under the King's Sign Manual.

MUIR MACKENZIE.

SCHEDULES.

THE FIRST SCHEDULE.

I. DISTRICT.

Valletta (East) including Strada Forni.

II. DISTRICT.

Valletta (West).	St. Julian's.
Sliema.	Misida.

III. DISTRICT.

Floriana.	Curmi.
Hamrun.	Zebbug.
Pietà	

IV. DISTRICT.

Cospicua.	Zabbar.
Vittoriosa.	Marsascala.
Calcara.	

V. DISTRICT.

Senglea.	Axiack.
Paula.	Zeitun.
Tarxien.	Marsascirocco.
Luca.	S. Giorgio a Mare.
Gudia.	Birzebbugia.

VI. District.

Birchircara.
Balzan.
Lia.
Attard.
Gargur.
Naxaro.
Musta.
Melleha.

VII. District.

Notabile.
Rabato.
Dingli.
Siggieui.
Crendi.
Micabiba.
Zurrico.
Bubakra.
Safi.
Chircop.

VIII. District.

Gozo; together with Comino.

The Second Schedule.

	£
Governor's Establishment	3,536
Council of Government	150
Lieutenant-Governor and Chief Secretary	2,700
Auditor-General	550
Printing Office	50
Public Works	800
Water Works	300
Receiver-General	500
Customs	500
Ports	500
Post Office	750
Public Registry	150
Superior Courts	4,300
Crown Lawyers	865
Magistrates	2,100
Gozo Courts	500
Police	2,172
Prisons	230
Educational	900
Charitable Institutions	745
Monte di Pietà	120
Crown Agents	100
Clerical Establishment	5,000
Civil Contingencies	1,000
Drawbacks	3,500
Military Contribution	5,000
Public Health Department	790
	£37,808

APPENDIX III.

MALTA.

INSTRUCTIONS passed under the Royal Sign Manual and Signet, to the Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Island of Malta and its Dependencies.

EDWARD R. & I.

Dated 3rd June, 1903.

INSTRUCTIONS to Our Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over Our Island of Malta and its Dependencies, or, in his absence, to Our Lieutenant-Governor or the Officer for the time being administering the Government of Our said Island and its Dependencies.

Given at Our Court at Saint James's this Third day of June 1903, in the Third year of Our Reign.

Preamble.

Recites Letters Patent constituting the office of Governor.

Whereas by certain Letters Patent, bearing even date herewith, We have constituted, ordered, and declared that there shall be a Governor and Commander-in-Chief (hereinafter called Our said Governor) in and over Our Island of Malta and its Dependencies, and of all forts and garrisons erected and established, or which may be erected or established within the same (which said Island of Malta, with its Dependencies, and all such forts and garrisons as aforesaid are hereinafter referred to as Our said Island), And We have thereby authorised and commanded Our said Governor to do and execute in due manner all things that shall belong to his said command, and to the trust We have reposed in him, according to the several powers and authorities granted or appointed him by virtue of the said Letters Patent and of such Commission as may be issued to him under Our Sign Manual and Signet, and to such other powers and authorities, being still in force, as may have been heretofore given to any of his predecessors in his said command, and according to such Instructions as may from time to time be given to him, under Our Sign Manual and Signet, or by Our Order in Our Privy Council, or by Us through One of Our Principal Secretaries of State, and according to such Laws as are or shall hereafter be in force in Our said Island: Now, therefore, We do by these Our Instructions under Our Sign Manual and Signet, declare Our pleasure to be that Our said Governor for the time being shall, with all due solemnity, cause Our Commission, under Our Sign Manual and Signet, appointing Our said Governor for the time being, to be read and published in the presence of the Chief Justice, or, in his absence, of any other Judge of the Superior Court of Our said Island, and of the members of the Council of Government thereof: And We do further declare Our pleasure to be that Our said Governor, and every other officer appointed to administer the Government of Our said Island, shall take the Oath of Allegiance in the form provided by an Act passed in the Session holden in the thirty-first and thirty-second years of the Reign of Her late Majesty Queen Victoria intituled "An Act to amend the Law relating to Promissory Oaths"; and likewise that he or they shall take the usual Oath for the due execution of the office of Our Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over Our said Island, and for the due and impartial administration of justice; which Oaths the said Chief Justice, or, in his absence, or, in the event of his being otherwise incapacitated, any Judge of the Superior Court for the time being of Our said Island shall, and he is hereby required to tender and administer unto him or them.

Publication of Governor's Commission.

Oaths to be taken by Governor, &c.

Imperial Act 31 and 32 Victoria, cap. 72.

Oaths to be administered by the Governor.

2. And We do hereby authorise and require Our said Governor from time to time, by himself or by any other person to be authorised by him in that behalf, to administer to every person, as he shall think fit, and who shall hold any office or place of trust or profit, or who shall at any time or times pass into Our said Island, or who shall be resident therein, the said Oath of Allegiance, together with such other Oath or Oaths as may from time to time be prescribed by any Laws in that behalf made and provided.

Governor's Warrant for Public Moneys.

Transmission of Public Accounts and Returns.

3. Our said Governor is to take care that no public moneys be issued out except by Warrant under his hand, and he shall transmit periodically all Accounts of the receipts and expenditure of the revenue of Our said Island which it may have been customary to transmit to Us, through one of Our Principal Secretaries of State, for Our information, or which are required to be so transmitted by Our

Colonial Rules and Regulations, or which may be called for, from time to time by Us through one of Our Principal Secretaries of State.

Governor not to purchase lands without permission.

4. And whereas We have by Our said Letters Patent authorised and empowered Our said Governor to make and execute in Our name and on Our behalf, under the Public Seal of Our said Island, grants and dispositions of any lands which may be lawfully granted or disposed of by Us within Our said Island: Now We do direct and enjoin that Our said Governor shall not directly or indirectly purchase for himself any of such lands without Our special permission given to him in that behalf through one of Our Principal Secretaries of State.

Governor not to propose or assent to Ordinances providing for the issue of bills of credit, paper money, &c., without permission.

5. And We do further direct that Our said Governor do not propose or assent to any Ordinance whatever whereby bills of credit, or debentures, or other negotiable securities of whatever nature, may be issued in lieu of money, on the credit of the said Island and its Dependencies, or whereby any Government paper currency may be established therein, or thereby any such bills, or any other paper currency, or any coin, save only the legal coin of the realm, may be made or declared to be a legal tender in payment of money, without Our special permission in that behalf first obtained.

Governor not to propose or assent to any Ordinance for raising money by lotteries.

6. And it is our further pleasure that Our said Governor do not propose or assent to any Ordinance whatever for raising money by the institution of any public or private lotteries.

Governor not to propose or assent to any Ordinance for the naturalisation of aliens, without special leave, unless it contains a suspending clause.

7. And it is Our will and pleasure that Our said Governor do not propose or assent to any Ordinance for the naturalisation of aliens without Our special leave or command therein first received, unless there be a clause therein suspending and deferring the operation of the same until Our pleasure shall be signified thereupon.

Governor not to propose or assent to any Ordinance providing for divorce or for establishing a title to immovable property acquired by any alien before naturalisation.

8. And it is Our pleasure that Our said Governor do not propose or assent to any Ordinance whatever for the divorce of persons joined together in holy matrimony, or for establishing a title in any person to lands or other immovable property acquired by any alien before his or her naturalisation.

Governor not to propose or assent to any Ordinance granting money, &c. to himself or any Member of the Council of Government.

9. And we do further direct that Our said Governor do not propose or assent to any Ordinance whatever, whereby any grant of money or other donations or gratuity be made by the Council of Government to him or to any member of the said Council.

Governor not to propose or assent to any private Ordinance whereby the property of any individual may be affected in which there is not a saving of the rights of the Crown, &c.

10. And we do further order and direct that Our said Governor do not propose or assent to any private Ordinance whatever, whereby the property of any individual may be affected, in which there is not a saving of the rights of Us, Our heirs and successors, and of all bodies politic and corporate, and of all other persons, excepting those at whose instance or for whose special benefit such Ordinance may be passed, and those claiming by, from, through, and under them.

Governor not, without express leave, to propose or assent to any Ordinance to which the Royal Assent has once been refused.

11. And it is Our will and pleasure that Our said Governor do not propose or assent to any Ordinance whatever to which Our assent has once been refused, without express leave for that purpose first obtained from Us.

Annual collection of Ordinances to be published.

12. And We do further declare Our pleasure to be that at the earliest convenient opportunity at the commencement of each year, Our said Governor do cause a complete collection to be published, for general information, of all Ordinances enrolled during the preceding year.

13. And We do further direct that all Ordinances to be made by Our said Governor with the advice of the said Council be distinguished by numerical marks, commencing in each successive year with No. 1, and proceeding in arithmetical progression to the number corresponding with the total number of Ordinances enacted during the year, and that every such Ordinance be divided into successive clauses or paragraphs, distinguished in like manner by numerical marks, and that to every such clause be annexed in the margin a short summary of its contents, and he is to observe that subjects which have no proper relation to each other be not comprised in one and the same Ordinance, and that no enactment be introduced in any such Ordinance which may be foreign to its professed scope and object, and that no perpetual clause be part of any temporary Ordinance.

Numbering of Ordinances.

Marginal Notes.

14. And whereas Our said Governor will receive through one of Our Principal Secretaries of State a book of Tables in blank, commonly called the Blue Book, to be annually filled up with certain returns relative to the revenue and expenditure, militia, public works, legislation, pensions, population, schools, course of exchange, imports and exports, agricultural produce, manufactures, and other matters in the said Blue Book more particularly specified with reference to the state and condition of Our said Island: Now We do hereby signify Our pleasure that all such returns be accurately prepared and punctually transmitted to Us from year to year through one of Our Principal Secretaries of State.

Blue Book.

15. And whereas great prejudice may happen to Our service, and to the security of Our said Island, by the absence of Our said Governor from thence, he is not, upon any pretence whatsoever, to quit Our said Island without having obtained leave from Us for so doing, under Our Sign Manual and Signet, or through one of Our Principal Secretaries of State.

Absence of the Governor.

Provided that the temporary absence of Our said Governor shall not, if he have duly appointed a Deputy in accordance with Our said Letters Patent, be deemed, during the continuance in office of such Deputy, to be absence from Our said Island within the meaning of Our said Letters Patent so as to make it necessary for any person to assume the Government as Administrator thereof.

16. And whereas by Our said Letters Patent, We have ordained that there shall be in and for Malta and its Dependencies an Executive Council, constituted as therein mentioned, now We do hereby direct and declare Our will and pleasure as follows:

The Members of the said Executive Council shall take precedence among themselves as We may specially assign, and in default thereof first the Military Officer in command of Our regular forces in Malta not being in the Administration of the Government, the Lieutenant-Governor and Chief Secretary to Government, and the Crown Advocate in the order in which their respective offices are herein mentioned, and then the other Official Members according to the priority of their respective appointments, or if appointed by the same Instrument, according to the order in which they are named therein.

Precedence of Members of Executive Council.

Official Members.

17. The Governor shall forthwith communicate these Our Instructions to the said Executive Council, and likewise all such others, from time to time, as he shall find convenient for Our service to impart to them.

Governor to communicate Instructions to Executive Council.

18. The said Executive Council shall not proceed to the despatch of business unless duly summoned by authority of the Governor, nor unless two Members at the least (exclusive of himself or of the Member presiding), be present and assisting throughout the whole of the meetings at which any such business shall be despatched.

Executive Council not to proceed to business unless summoned by the Governor's authority.

Quorum.

19. The Governor shall attend and preside at the meetings of the Executive Council, unless prevented by illness or other grave cause, and in his absence the senior Member of the said Council actually present shall preside.

Governor to preside.

20. Minutes shall be regularly kept of the proceedings of the Executive Council; and the said Council shall not at any meeting proceed to the despatch of business until the Minutes of the last preceding meeting have been read over and confirmed or amended, as may be necessary. Twice in each year a full and exact copy of the Minutes for the preceding half year shall be transmitted to Us through one of Our Principal Secretaries of State.

Minutes of the Executive Council to be kept.

To be transmitted home twice a year.

Governor to consult Executive Council.

Proviso: Urgent cases, &c.

21. In the execution of the powers and authorities granted to the Governor by Us, he shall in all cases consult with the Executive Council, excepting only in cases which are of such a nature that, in his judgment, Our service would sustain material prejudice by consulting the said Council thereupon, or when the matters to be decided are too unimportant to require their advice, or too urgent to admit of their advice being given by the time within which it may be necessary for him to act in respect of any such matters. In all such urgent cases he shall, at the earliest practicable period, communicate to the said Executive Council the measures which he may so have adopted, with the reasons thereof.

Governor to propose questions.

No Member to propose a question, but may record application for so doing.

22. The Governor shall alone be entitled to submit questions to the Executive Council for their advice or decision; but if the Governor decline to submit any question to the said Council when requested in writing by any Member so to do, it shall be competent to such Member to require that there be recorded upon the Minutes his written application, together with the answer returned by the Governor to the same.

Governor may act in opposition to Executive Council.

Reporting the grounds for so doing.

Members may record on Minutes their adverse opinions.

23. The Governor may act in opposition to the advice given to him by the Members of the Executive Council, if he shall in any case deem it right to do so; but in any such case he shall fully report the matter to Us by the first convenient opportunity, with the grounds and reasons of his action. In every such case it shall be competent to any Member of the said Council to require that there be recorded at length on the Minutes the grounds of any advice or opinion he may give upon the question.

Suspension of Officers.

24. Before suspending any public Officer whose emoluments exceed one hundred pounds a year from the exercise of his office the Governor shall signify to such Officer, by a statement in writing, the grounds of the intended suspension, and shall call upon him to state in writing the grounds upon which he desires to exculpate himself. The Governor shall lay both statements before the Executive Council, and having consulted them thereon shall cause to be recorded on the Minutes, whether the Council or the majority thereof does or does not assent to the suspension, and if the Governor thereupon proceed to such suspension he shall transmit both of the said statements, together with the Minutes of the Executive Council, to Us through one of Our Principal Secretaries of State by the earliest opportunity. But if in any case the interests of Our service shall appear to the Governor to demand that a person shall cease to exercise the powers and functions of his office instantly or before there shall be time to take the proceedings hereinbefore directed, he shall then interdict such person from the exercise of the powers and functions of his office.

Regulation of power of pardon in capital cases.

Judge's report to be laid before the Executive Council.

Governor to take the advice of the Executive Council in such cases.

May exercise his own judgment.

Entering his reasons on the Council Minutes.

25. Whenever any offender shall have been condemned by the sentence of any Court to suffer death, the Governor shall call upon the Judge who presided at the trial to make to him a written Report of the case of such offender, and shall cause such Report to be taken into consideration at the first meeting of the Executive Council which may be conveniently held thereafter, and he may cause the said Judge to be specially summoned to attend at such meeting and to produce his notes thereat. The Governor shall not pardon or reprieve any such offender unless it shall appear to him expedient so to do, upon receiving the advice of the said Executive Council thereon; but in all such cases he is to decide either to extend or to withhold a pardon or reprieve, according to his own deliberate judgment, whether the Members of the Executive Council concur therein or otherwise; entering, nevertheless, on the Minutes of the said Executive Council a Minute of his reasons at length in case he shall decide any such question in opposition to the judgment of the majority of the Members thereof.

Term "the Governor" defined.

26. In these Our Instructions the term "the Governor" shall, unless the context otherwise requires, include every person for the time being administering the Government of Malta and its Dependencies.

E. R. & I.

APPENDIX IV.

GOVERNOR SIR F. W. GRENFELL to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

(Received January 22, 1902.)

The Palace, Valletta, January 18, 1902.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a Petition addressed to His Majesty the King, to which are appended about 63,000 signatures and names, with marks of illiterate people. Of those who appear to have signed the Petition themselves, about 10,500 are males, and 6,000 females. The names against which marks have been appended (to show that they belong to illiterate persons) number about 46,500, viz.: 22,100 of males and 24,400 of females, Boys and girls are included.

2. In this Petition it is alleged and prayed—

(*a*) that the Petitioners find themselves in consternation "owing to the tyranny of the Officials of their Government;

(*b*) "that they are being, since some years, gradually spoiled of their inherited Italian language, and threatened with its total suppression;

(*c*) "that they are attacked in one of their rights most dear to them, which is of supreme interest to their country;

(*d*) "that they are manaced by additional taxation which they are unable to meet, as the great majority of the population is utterly poor";

(*e*) that it is proposed to deprive them "of every efficacious interference in the local administration;"

(*f*.) that the question of Taxation and that of the Language and Public Instruction "may be left to the will of the people, as lawfully expressed by the present Elected Members of the Council"; and

(*g*) that the Constitution be reformed in a manner "to ensure to the people the administration of local concerns,—the lawful exigencies of the Fortress and of the Naval Station being safeguarded."

3. This Petition was initiated before the proclamation in Malta of the Order in Council of the 26th September, 1901, and has been in circulation for several months; it appears, moreover, that many forms of influence have been brought to bear to obtain signatures, including those of youths down to 14 years of age, if not younger; and that in many cases "signatures" are obviously in the same handwriting.

4. The allegation (*a*) that consternation is general owing to the "tyranny of the officials of this Government, dissimulated at the eyes of the English Nation by the alteration of facts and by the suppression of very important other facts," and the other untrue and grossly exaggerated statements made therein, appear to have determined his Grace the Archbishop, Bishop of Malta, and the Chapter of the Cathedral not to sign the Petition in this form. However, the Bishop and a majority of the Chapter signed another, less extravagant, version of the petition, which was forwarded in my despatch of the 7th instant.*

5. The Order in Council of the 26th of September, far from (*b*) despoiling anyone of an "inherited language," ensures for the people of Malta a measure of educational freedom that was never previously enjoyed. Advanced students are still bound to learn Italian (which never was the language of Malta); but no student is now compelled to pass examinations in Italian, if he prefers English.

6. I beg to annex a copy of an interim report of the Census taken on the 31st of March, 1901, proving (*c*) that Italian is not the language of Malta, or of the Maltese; and that only 12·5 of the population are even able to speak Italian. A note by the Keeper of the Archives also shows that Italian only became the principal language of the Courts of Law in 1774. The description of that language as the inheritance of the majority hardly calls for further refutation.

7. Additional taxation (*d*) was proposed before the Order in Council of the

* Not printed.

26th September last, not since its proclamation ; and the present new taxes lapse after 13 years, when the drainage scheme will be completed.

8. The actual result on market prices of the additional taxation established by the Order in Council of the 26th September, 1901, is set out in the enclosed return ; it is inappreciable, and it has been borne with such ease, that it is not felt by any class. Efforts have, nevertheless, been made to lead the illiterate people to think that the taxes proposed before the issue of the Order in Council are yet to come, and that they may be warded off by signing such petitions.

9. The annexed list gives a comparison of wages ruling at present, side by side with those paid in former periods. It is notorious that the working classes were never better off, and that the great works undertaken by the Local and Imperial Governments are the direct cause of this unprecedented prosperity.

10. The most valuable constitutional right hitherto granted, by which there has been given to the people (*e*) "an efficacious interference in the local administration," is obviously the opportunity at the disposal of Elected Members to accept seats in the Executive Council, and of thereby forming part of the Aministration. But the Elected Members have, since July 1898, refused to take advantage of this privilege.

11. It is not clear whether this refusal is based on the inability of the leaders to maintain chronic opposition, and to organize Elected Members to vote systematically against the Government—should three of them join the Government and receive the established remuneration of £300 a year ; or, whether, as has been explained by the Elected Members themselves, on the circumstance that those now elected are pledged to decline the money of the Government. On the other hand, the ablest among them avow that they are unable to give their services to the Country, in the Executive Council, without remuneration, as they have to work for their living.

12. There would be no objection (*f*) to adopt different means to levy the necessary revenue ; but the Elected Members have ever refused to discuss any fiscal reform. If public instruction were left to them, they would enact an Ordinance, repeatedly introduced by them, to make Italian the basis of Education. They would deprive the 160,621 Maltese who do not know Italian of any knowledge of reading and writing the language they can understand ; and they would repeal the Educational emancipation from compulsory Italian, which has now become the vested right of all.

13. The motion by Dr. Mizzi, of which a translation is enclosed, censuring the provision of temporary mooring accommodation which was absolutely necessary for His Majesty's Ships in Malta Harbour, instances the difficulties, which might become insuperable, if (*g*) local concerns overlapping the "lawful exigencies of the Fortress and Naval Station" were to be left to the judgment of a majority, returned on a system which—in practice—excludes from representation any Maltese minority, or any spokesman of the large number of British taxpayers, who are not domiciled in Malta, but nevertheless contribute an overwhelming proportion of taxation and wealth to the Island.

14. The anti-English tendencies which have been shown for some time by the local press (the most prominent organ of which is owned and controlled by leading Elected Members) are calculated to arouse and maintain hostility to the Empire. It would be inexcusable to recommend the grant of more power to persons who are responsible for the persistent publication of disloyal and even seditious effusions, which, in a British Fortress, is likely to be of great harm to the public welfare.

I have, &c.,
F. GRENFELL,
Governor.

Enclosure 1 in Appendix IV.

To His Imperial Majesty EDWARD VII., King of Great Britain and Ireland and all the British Dominions beyond the Seas, Emperor of India, &c., &c., &c.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR IMPERIAL MAJESTY !

THE undersigned Inhabitants of Malta and Gozo, Your Imperial Majesty's most faithful subjects, in the consternation in which they find themselves, owing to the tyranny of the Officials of their Government, dissimulated at the eyes of the English Nation, by

the alteration of facts, and by the suppression of very important other facts, most respectfully venture to approach Your August Majesty and prostrated implore from Your Power and Justice Your Royal and Imperial Protection promised to them by the glorious Predecessors of Your Imperial Majesty.

The humble Petitioners are being, since some years, gradually spoiled of their inherited Italian Language, and threatened with its total suppression. They feel deeply hurt of being thus attacked in one of their rights most dear to them, which is of supreme interest to their country. They are, moreover, menaced by additional taxation, which they are unable to meet, as the great majority of the Population is utterly poor.

It is also proposed to curtail the few and insignificant constitutional rights which remain to them, thus depriving them of every efficacious interference in the local administration.

The humble Petitioners venture, most humbly, to implore from your August Majesty that the question of the taxation of the country and that of the Language and Public Instruction, which are of the utmost popular interest, may be left to the will of the People, as lawfully expressed by the present Elected Members of the Council of Government, and that the Constitution of their Government may be reformed in such a manner as to insure to the People the administration of local concerns—the lawful exigencies of the Fortress and of the Naval Station being safeguarded.

And as in duty bound Your Imperial Majesty's Petitioners will ever pray.

Enclosure 2 in Appendix IV.

GOVERNMENT NOTICE.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR has been pleased to direct it to be notified that in terms of Clause 4 of the Order in Council of the 26th September 1901, Candidates for Matriculation, or for Admission to the Lyceum shall, in future, be examined in the English Language or the Italian Language or in both, at the choice of their parents or guardians.

For the purpose of classification, in the case of candidates examined in both languages, marks will be reckoned, in the total, only for the language in which the higher number is awarded.

By Command,

G. STRICKLAND,
Chief Secretary to Government.

Palace, Valletta,
November 19, 1901.

Enclosure 3 in Appendix IV.

GOVERNMENT NOTICE.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, by virtue of the power vested in him by Clause 4 of the Order in Council of the 26th September 1901, has been pleased to direct it to be notified that the Quarterly and the Annual Examinations, in the Faculty of Literature and Science in the University, and in the Lyceum, will be conducted on the principles laid down in Government Notice No. 293 of the 19th November 1901 with reference to the Matriculation and the Examinations for Admission to the Lyceum, viz.: Students shall in future be examined in the English Language or Literature, or in the Italian Language or Literature, or in both Languages or Literatures, at the choice of their parents or guardians, and, for the purposes of classification, in the case of students who are examined in the English Language or Literature as well as in the Italian Language or Literature, marks will, in the total, be reckoned only for the Language or Literature in which the higher number is awarded.

By Command,

G. STRICKLAND,
Chief Secretary to Government.

Palace, Valletta,
January 17, 1902.

Enclosure 4 in Appendix IV.

Supplement to the Malta Government Gazette No. 4415 of the 12th November, 1901

STATEMENT showing the number of persons able to Speak, Read, and Write English and Italian, and of those able to Read and Write Maltese; also the percentage of the same numbers to the total Maltese Population * (5 years of age and upwards) at each Census in 1891 and 1901.

PLACES.	Maltese Population * (exclusive of children under five years of age).		ENGLISH.												ITALIAN.												MALTESE.							
			Speak.				Read.				Write.				Speak.				Read.				Write.				Read.				Write.			
			1891.				1891.				1891.				1891.				1891.				1891.				1891.				1891.			
			Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.
	1891.	1901.																														
Malta and Gozo	140,673	157,749	13,604	9·67	18,922	12·00	14,011	9·96	20,336	12·89	11,466	8·15	17,053	10·81	18,052	12·83	21,027	13·33	25,539	18·15	27,805	17·63	20,870	14·84	23,724	15·04	26,089	18·54	37,469	23·75	18,460	13·12	26,126	6·56

* Born in the Maltese Islands or of Maltese parentage.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT shewing the various degrees of qualification as to speaking, reading or writing English and Italian, between the figures for 1881 and 1891 and for 1891 and 1901.

Degree of knowledge.	Persons.		Increase.		Persons.		Increase.	
	1881.	1891.	Numerical.	Centesimal.	1891.	1901.	Numerical.	Centesimal.
English—Speak ...	11,826	13,604	1,778	15.03	13,604	18,922	5,318	39.09
Read ...	9,464	14,011	4,547	48.05	14,011	20,336	6,325	45.14
Write ..	8,259	11,466	3,207	38.83	11,466	17,053	5,587	48.72
Italian — Speak ...	17,397	18,052	655	3.76	18,052	21,027	2,975	16.48
Read ...	19,039	25,539	6,500	34·14	25,539	27,805	2,266	8.87
Write ...	14,795	20,870	6,075	41.06	20,870	23,724	2,854	13.67

Census Office,
3rd August, 1901.

NOTE.—English and Italian-Speaking Population of Malta on 31st March, 1901:—

English.

Born in Malta or of Maltese parentage	18,922
British Subjects not born in Malta	1,828
Foreigners...	372
Garrison	10,482
Royal Navy	11,606
	43,210

Percentage of English-Speaking Population to the Total British and Foreign Population—5 years of age and upwards—(183,565) on 31st March, 1901 ... 23·54

Italian.

Born in Malta or of Maltese parentage	21,027
British Subjects not born in Malta	175
Foreigners...	1,752
	22,954

Percentage of Italian-Speaking Population to the Total British and Foreign Population—5 years of age and upwards—(183,565) on 31st March, 1901 ... 12·50

N. TAGLIAFERRO,
Registrar of the Census.

Enclosure 5 in Appendix IV.

NOTE BY KEEPER OF GOVERNMENT ARCHIVES.

(Translation.)

From the Registers of Judgments delivered by the Grand Civil Court of Valletta it results that up to 1814 judgments were pronounced in Latin, and from 1815 forward in Italian.

From the Notarial Acts kept in the Notarial Archives it appears that from 1467 up to 1774, barring a few exceptions, all acts were drawn up in Latin; from 1775 to 1786 promiscuously; from the latter date up to the present in Italian.

Handed to me by Mr. Gera.

G. STRICKLAND.

Enclosure 6 in Appendix IV.

STATEMENT showing the actual Market Prices of the Articles affected by the Duties imposed by the "Malta Revenue and General Purposes Order in Council, 1901," as compared with the prices of those articles in January, 1901.

Articles.	Market Prices.		Increase.	Decrease.
	January, 1901.	January, 1902.		
Wine :—				
Common	1*s.* 6*d.* per quarta = $\frac{1}{8}$ of a Maltese barrel.	1*s.* 6*d.* per quarta.	—	—
Bottled	Sundry prices.	Sundry prices.	Additional duty now levied.	—
Beer	£2 per 36 galls.	£2 3*s.* 6*d.* per barrel. Retailers have not increased their selling prices.	3*s.* 6*d.* per barrel of 32 galls. wholesale. None retail.	—
Petroleum :—				
American	6*s.* 2*d.* per 8 galls.	6*s.* 2*d.* per 8 galls.	—	—
Batoum	5*s.* 4*d.* do.	5*s.* 4*d.* do.	—	—
In bulk	4*s.* for 8 galls.	4*s.* 2*d.* for every 8 galls.	2*d.* = $\frac{1}{4}$*d.* per gall.	—
Sugar	18*s.* 4*d.* per 100 Rot. (Cantar).	17*s.* 6*d.* per 100 Rot. No increase except in the case of some shops in Floriana.		10*d.*
Tobacco :—				
Cigarettes	Sundry prices.	Sundry prices. Retailers in general have not increased the usual prices.	1*s.* per lb. new duty.	—
Cigars manufactured locally.	8 No. for 1*d.*	7 No. for 1*d.*	12·5 per cent.	—
Cigars imported	Sundry prices.	Sundry prices.	1*s.* per lb. new duty.	—
Cavendish	Do.	Do.	1*s.* 2*d.* per lb. new duty.	—
Negrohead	Do.	Do.	Do.	—
Snuff	1*d.* packets.	1*d.* packets. containing an inappreciable quantity less than usual.	7*d.* to 9*d.* per lb. new duty.	—

F. VELLA,
January 13, 1902.

W. AGIUS.

Enclosure 7 in Appendix IV.

The subjoined statement shows the wages of skilled and unskilled workmen in the last ten years :—

Trade.	Ten years back.	Five years back.	At present.
	s. d. s. d.	*s. d. s. d.*	*s. d. s. d.*
Masons	2 8 to 3 4	3 0 to 4 0	3 0 to 4 6
Stone Cutters	2 0 „ 2 3	2 2 „ 2 6	2 6 „ 3 4
Miners	1 10 „ 2 0	2 0 „ 2 2	2 0 „ 3 0
Plasterers	1 6 „ 1 10	1 8 „ 2 6	2 0 „ 3 0
Fitters	3 0 „ 4 0	3 6 „ 5 0	4 0 „ 5 6
Carpenters	2 0 „ 3 0	2 0 „ 3 4	2 4 „ 4 0
Painters	1 8 „ 2 3	1 10 „ 2 4	2 0 „ 2 6
Glaziers	1 8 „ 2 0	2 1 „ 2 2	2 2 „ 2 6
Road-keepers	1 8 „ 2 0	1 10 „ 2 2	1 10 „ 2 6
Scavengers	1 6 „ 1 8	1 6 „ 1 10	1 8 „ 2 0
Labourers	1 4 „ 1 10	1 6 „ 2 2	1 8 „ 2 6
Cartmen	2 6 „ 3 0	3 0 „ 3 4	3 4 „ 3 6
Drivers	2 6 „ 4 0	2 6 „ 4 6	2 6 „ 5 6
Leading Fitters	4 6 „ 5 0	4 6 „ 6 0	4 6 „10 0
Stokers	2 0 „ 2 4	2 0 „ 2 6	2 0 „ 3 0

L. GATT.

January 15, 1902.

Enclosure 8 in Appendix IV.

RESOLUTION which Dr. Mizzi proposes to move in the Council of Government on the 22nd January, 1902, and of which notice was given by him on the 12th December, 1901.

Translation.

At the next sitting of the Council he will move the following Resolution :—

That it is the opinion of this Council that the permission granted by the Government to the Admiralty to place buoys in the Grand Harbour in the waters reserved for merchant vessels is detrimental to the maritime trade of these Islands, and is an infraction of the covenants sanctioned by the Resolution passed by this Council on the 25th of May, 1859.

APPENDIX V.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN TO GOVERNOR SIR F. W. GRENFELL.

Sir, Downing Street, February 17, 1902.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 18th of January,* and to inform you that the petition from certain inhabitants of Malta and Gozo respecting the language and taxation questions which was transmitted with that despatch has been laid before the King, but that His Majesty has not been pleased to give any directions thereon.

I have, &c.,
J. CHAMBERLAIN.

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* Appendix IV.

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on 31 October, 2019